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A Family Affair.

Delon and Loraine Whetten know a thing or two about sending children off to college. Five of their six children have attended Collin College over the years. Check out their story and their tips for parents of college-bound students!

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Collin Students 'Baylor Bound'

Collin College students are heading south to Waco looking for green and gold. These students are not searching for treasure. They are seeking a bachelor's degree.

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College Announces New Programs

Collin College is introducing three new degrees— surgical technology, health information technology and technical information and knowledge management.

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Where Are They Now?

Collin Graduate Makes a Difference in South Africa.

Many people talk about joining the Peace Corps, eliminating world hunger or devoting themselves to causes that make the world a better place. Collin College graduate Marcela Guerrero Casas is actually doing it.

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Did You Know?

A Collin lab instructor has discovered an albino version of the famous state flower, the bluebonnet, growing at the college's Spring Creek Campus. Learn more about this discovery and all the doctorates on the faculty roster in our special feature "Did You Know?"

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A Family Affair.



The Whetten family found that higher education is close to home. (from left) Mark, Neal, Triston, Loraine and Delon Whetten. (Not pictured Dawn Whetten Pettit and Jonathan and Michael Whetten.)

A note on the refrigerator door at the Whetten home reads, "I've learned to never stop learning." At this household, education is a way of life.

Delon and Loraine Whetten of Allen are the proud parents of six children between the ages of 22 and 32 – Triston, Dawn, Neal, Michael, Jonathan and Mark. When it was time to pursue higher education, the Whetten family looked to a local option – Collin College. Loraine and five of the six children attended the college.

Loraine embarked on her journey at Collin College hoping to increase her computer skills. Having been out of the workforce while raising six children, she felt that she needed some refresher courses.

Along the way, Loraine decided she wanted to improve her writing skills, so she enrolled in a writing course. That was the beginning of an educational voyage for Loraine, who would describe herself as a lifelong learner. From there, Loraine enrolled in English... history... government.

When Triston and Dawn started looking for higher education options, Collin College seemed like a natural fit.

"I had heard really good things about Collin College, and I wanted to stay home for a year before I transferred. I really liked the class size at Collin College; it allowed me to get a lot of personal attention," Dawn said.

Dawn transferred to Brigham Young University. After studying at Collin, Triston accepted a position at Cisco as a software engineer. Next, Neal, Jonathan and Mark followed the family tradition of attending the college.

Delon, who is a senior manager of a software development group at Cisco, said he has been impressed by the caliber of education that Collin College has provided for his family.

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"When our kids moved on to other universities or careers, what they learned at Collin College was a really solid foundation," Delon said. "I used to think you had to go somewhere with a big name if you want to get a good education. That is not true. This is an outstanding college."

Now that the Whetten children are grown, they are thankful for the education they received and the lessons they learned from both the college and their parents.

"My dad has always been a good provider. One of the keys to that was having the educational background to do well," Triston, a father of three, said. "Now that I have kids, my education is key for providing for my own family."

The Whetten family has moved on to new things. Triston continues to work as a software engineer at Cisco. Dawn owns a mortgage company with her husband. Neal is completing his degree and recently accepted a position as an IT analyst for the City of Dallas Attorney's Office. Jonathan works in robotics at Idaho National Laboratory and will start a master's degree program this fall. Mark graduated last spring and plans to attend Utah Valley University. The family feels confident that the lessons learned at Collin College will serve them well in life.

"I tell people the quality of the education you get at Collin College is really high-period," Delon said. "From my experience with my own kids and seeing what they have accomplished, it is an outstanding education."

COLLEGE PREP CHECKLIST.

Delon and Loraine Whetten know a thing or two about sending children off to college. Five of their six children have attended Collin College over the years. As their children—Triston, Dawn, Neal, Jonathan and Mark—have experienced the stimulation of higher education, both Delon and Loraine have learned a lot, too. Here, the Whettens offer tips for parents and students on preparing for college.



PLAN AHEAD: "Talk about college and let them have a say," Delon said. "Lay out the options. The longer you wait, the fewer options may be available so planning is key."



BE YOURSELF: Both Delon and Loraine encourage parents to let their children follow their individual paths. Each of their six children took a distinct route to reach their goals. Having taken college classes recently, Loraine suggests sampling a broad range of classes to get a taste of a number of different disciplines. "Take core classes, but also take classes that you like or are interested in," Delon adds.



KNOW YOUR STRENGTHS AND INTERESTS: The couple adds that chasing the almighty dollar isn't always the best path. Parents should encourage their children to explore career fields that reflect their interests and skills, rather than basing happiness on material wealth. "Who you are is more important than what you have. Material things change, they come and go," Delon said.



ENCOURAGE, ENCOURAGE, ENCOURAGE: A college student's self-esteem can waver. One bad grade or a less-than-stellar performance on a paper can damper anyone's high expectations. "Tell your kids, 'Just keep going!,'" Loraine said. "It's important to learn from mistakes. Encourage them to reflect on why they didn't do as well as expected and think about what they can change to do better."



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Collin Students 'Baylor Bound'

Collin College students are heading south to Waco looking for green and gold. These students are not searching for treasure. They are seeking a bachelor's degree.



Thanks to a unique partnership agreement, Collin College students can put their Collin College education toward a bachelor's degree from Baylor University through the new "Baylor Bound" transfer program.

According to Dr. J. Robert Collins, founding board member and chairman of the Board of Trustees, the college's university partnership programs offer many advantages for Collin students, and the college is pleased to offer this unique program.

"We have worked hard to develop strong relationships with some of the finest Texas institutions of higher education. Baylor University has a reputation for academic excellence, and we're thrilled to be able to offer the Collin County community a direct path to a Baylor education."

Baylor Bound abbreviates the admission process for Collin College students who plan to transfer to Baylor by identifying those students early and guiding them through the transfer process.

Students participating in Baylor Bound will receive information about scholarships for transfer students; have access to a Baylor academic advisor prior to transferring from Collin College; and be able to register early for summer and fall classes. Other perks of the program include the ability to attend the earliest transfer orientation session, interlibrary book loans from the Baylor library system and more.

"We're delighted with this initiative," said Dr. Randall J. O'Brien, executive vice president and provost at Baylor. "We appreciate very much Collin's interest in joining with us to facilitate their students' completion of bachelor's degrees at Baylor. This arrangement enables us to communicate in a very direct and personal way with these students and to welcome them to our community."

Ceilidh Charleson-Jennings, professor of speech communication at Collin College, is a Baylor graduate. She is excited about the agreement and the possibilities it holds for her students. According to Professor Charleson-Jennings, "Baylor has a reputation of being a first-class institution in terms of quality and academic rigor; I found that to be true," she said. "I had professors at Baylor who changed my life. The classes challenged me academically in every way that I needed to be challenged. The quality of instruction was invariably excellent."

Collin College holds special preadmission partnerships with Baylor University, Southern Methodist University, Texas A&M University, Texas A&M University-Commerce, Texas Tech University, Texas Woman's University, the University of North Texas and The University of Texas at Dallas. Nearly 500 students have

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participated in Collin College's university partnership programs.

Student Kristina Dinh is one of those students. Dinh plans to transfer to SMU next spring through the partnership program and hopes to continue her education to become a pharmacist or physician.

"This program really gives you an idea of how a university is going to be," Dinh said. "Your transfer counselors keep up with you and work with you to ensure that your transfer goes smoothly. I definitely feel prepared to transfer."

"A college education is a necessity, and access to an affordable college education is paramount," said Dr. Cary A. Israel, president of Collin College. "This agreement allows students to start at Collin, immediately identify themselves as Baylor-bound, and have greater access to a major, esteemed university. We welcome Baylor University as a university partner, and we look forward to Collin transfer students becoming Baylor graduates."

For more information on Baylor Bound or other transfer programs at Collin College, visit <http://transferu.ccccd.edu> .

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College Announces New Programs

Collin College is introducing three new degrees— surgical technology, health information technology and technical information and knowledge management.

AAS in Surgical Technology

The new associate of applied science (AAS) degree in surgical technology will prepare students to assist in surgical operations, prepare the operating room by setting up surgical instruments and equipment and making sure equipment works properly. Surgical technicians also prepare the patient for surgery; transport patients to the surgery area; observe patient vital signs; process charges; and generally assist the surgical team.

Students completing the program will be eligible to become a Certified Surgical Technologist by a national certification examination process.

According to the U.S. Department of Labor, the field is expected to grow by 27 percent in the coming years nationally and by 33.95 percent in north central Texas. Surgical technicians are employed by hospitals and free-standing day surgery facilities. As the volume of surgeries increases, the need for professionals such as surgical technicians also increases.

The new degree has a competitive admission process and totals 68 credit hours, including 13 hours of prerequisites. Prerequisites include Medical Terminology I, Anatomy and Physiology I and II and Introduction to the Healthcare System.

For more information, visit the Surgical Technology website at www.ccccd.edu/surgtech or contact academic advisor Lynne Meyer at 972.548.6778 or lmeyer@cccd.edu.

AAS in Health Information Technology

The AAS in health information technology prepares individuals to assure the quality of health records by verifying their completeness and accuracy. Additionally, students will learn computer applications for patient data.

Wages for billing and coding clerks and information technicians/clerks are projected to increase by 10.9 percent and 31.3 percent, respectively.

After full approval by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, the program will be open for enrollment without special admission requirements. The program contains a total of 65 semester credit hours. Students who complete the program will be eligible to become certified as a Certified Coding Associate and a Registered Health Information Technologist by national examinations. The graduate will be able to function in multiple roles including transcriptionist, clinical coder, coding manager, clinical data collection and reporting specialist, cancer or other disease registrar and a host of other professional opportunities.

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For more information, contact academic advisor Lynne Meyer at 972.548.6778 or lmeyer@ccccd.edu.

AS in Technical Communications and Knowledge Management

The new associate of science in technical communications and knowledge management will equip students with the skills to convey complex data to a number of diverse audiences and manage knowledge within and between organizations.

The two-year program will total 60 credit hours and will prepare the student for transfer to a university to finish a bachelor's degree in technical communication.

For more information, contact academic advisor Amy Throop at 972.377.1513 or at athroop@ccccd.edu.

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Where Are They Now? Collin Graduate Makes a Difference in South Africa.

Many people talk about joining the Peace Corps, eliminating world hunger or devoting themselves to causes that make the world a better place. We talk about it, but most of us do not act on those good intentions. Collin College graduate Marcela Guerrero Casas is not like most of us.

Guerrero Casas is currently working at the global headquarters of CIVICUS World Alliance for Citizen Participation in Johannesburg, South Africa. Founded in the U.S., CIVICUS is a non-governmental organization that has close to 500 members and addresses societal issues such as human rights, education and political participation.



Marcela Guerrero Casas

"The inequalities here are very strong; you can feel them no matter where you are. The social inequality, racial tension, economics and politics are more difficult to handle than I expected, but they do not stop me from having a normal life here. I am learning the social intricacies of South Africa, but I still manage to have a western standard perspective. It is sort of a dual reality," she said.

After graduating from Collin, Guerrero Casas earned a bachelor's degree in international relations at Kennesaw State University and two masters' degrees in public administration and international relations at the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University.

Guerrero Casas studied the history of South Africa and was familiar with the politics of the country, but she was not prepared for the reality of the recent apartheid and the economic disparity that still exists.

"There are still a lot of poor black South Africans. It is a very stable country, and it is very wealthy compared to other countries, but there is still existing tension that you would not pick up on unless you lived here. Having come to Africa, my idea of making an impact has changed. I have become more humble. My impact now is in evaluation. In the long term, my impact will be in sharing knowledge and experience," she said.

According to Guerrero Casas, Dr. Kay Mizell, Collin professor of English, served as an inspiration and cemented her decision to pursue social justice. "My passion to see the world was further intensified at Collin. Talks with Dr. Mizell motivated me to pursue that dream. Dr. Mizell has a passion for international affairs. She has a

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unique way of bringing politics and what is going on in the world into her classes. It made me realize that everything is connected," she said.
Guerrero Casas moved to South Africa because she has an interest in post-conflict situations. She seems aware of the fact that most people dream of ideals and do not live them on a daily basis.

"I hope that I am helping to plant the seeds that will translate into a more peaceful environment. Those are long term goals that one individual does not affect by himself; I see myself as a piece of the puzzle," she said.

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Student Highlights

Collin College's Young Adult Council of the **League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)** was named the National Council of the Year at the annual national convention in Chicago in July. This is the second year in a row that the Collin College LULAC council has won this honor.



Collin College's 2007 Young Adult Council of the Year winners. (top left) David Guzman, Victor Arrizabalo, Carlos Sambrano, David Fajardo, Walter Medrano and Roman Perez. (bottom row) Lupita Murillo Tinnen, Danya Salinas, Jackie Chaves, Chrystal Martz and Eddy Trejo.

Three Collin College students were named to the first team of the 2006-2007 All-Texas Academic Team by Phi Theta Kappa, an international honor society for college students. **Nasim Najafi** is a pre-law student majoring in business and psychology. **Carlos Valera** is studying international relations. **Danya Salinas** is planning to become a broadcast journalist.



Left to right, Nasim Najafi, Carlos Valera, Danya Salinas.

Collin College students **Tracy Fanous**, **Disney Rachel-Philip** and **Anna Vladimirova** were accepted to the Research Experience for Undergraduates at Texas A&M University-Commerce. Students **Giang Quach** and **Christopher Koehler** were named as alternates. Only 10 students and two alternate students were chosen for this honor. Collin College students filled five of those 12 positions. The students spent 10 weeks this past summer conducting a collaborative research project in the fields of chemistry and surface science with an A&M-Commerce faculty mentor. The program is funded by the National Science Foundation.

Microsoft Corporation and the League for Innovation in the Community College has named Collin student **Mary Hawkins** as winner of the Terry O'Banion Award as Student Technology

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Champion. The award stems from her undergraduate work in the convergence technology program at Collin. Convergence technology is a new field and a new degree program for the college, one that started with a grant from the National Science Foundation. Hawkins was the first Collin College student to earn a degree in convergence technology.



Mary Hawkins

Collin College's **Phi Theta Kappa – Alpha Mu Tau chapter** was presented with several distinctions at the Phi Theta Kappa International Convention: student **Frank Pallone** was named Distinguished President for his leadership of the Collin College chapter and student **Diana Gonzales** was named Distinguished Member. Phi Theta Kappa also commended Alpha Mu Tau as a Distinguished Chapter, an honor given to the top 25 in the society. The Collin chapter also received a Scholarship Hallmark, one of only 25 awarded nationwide.



Collin College's Phi Theta Kappa – Alpha Mu Tau chapter

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Dr. Nell Ard

Dr. Nell Ard, director of nursing, passed the National League of Nursing's Certified Nurse Educator Examination. Dr. Ard joined a small, prestigious group around the nation who have obtained this honor.



Susan Kamath

Susan Kamath, professor of nursing, was given the 2007 Heart Award Recipient by the Volunteer McKinney Center. She was honored for her service to the Children's & Community Clinic of McKinney. She was acknowledged for recruiting and involving the Collin College nursing program.



Dr. Rosemary Karr

Dr. Rosemary Karr, professor of developmental education, received the National Association of Developmental Education (NADE) Award for Outstanding Service to Developmental Education Students. This award recognizes the long-term contribution of time and energy to developmental education students by a NADE member.

Angela Putman, professor of speech communication and chapter advisor for Collin College's chapter of Phi Theta Kappa honor society, received a prestigious accolade, the Paragon Award for New Advisors, at the Phi Theta Kappa international convention. She also received the Horizon Award for

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Angela Putman

outstanding service as an advisor.



Lupita Tinnen

Lupita Tinnen, professor of photography, was named the LULAC Young Adult Advisor of the Year at the national competition. This is the third straight year that a Collin College LULAC advisor has won this honor.



Donna White

Donna White, professor of anatomy and physiology, was selected by the board of directors of the Human Anatomy and Physiology Society (HAPS) as the recipient of the HAPS President's Award. This is the highest award given by the national organization whose mission is "promoting excellence in the teaching of human anatomy and physiology."



Sharon Hirschy & Elaine Wilkinson

Elaine Wilkinson, child development department chair, and **Sharon Hirschy**, professor of child development, were installed as the co-presidents of the Child Development Educator's Association for Texas Associate Degree Programs at the Texas Community College Teachers Association annual conference.

The National Council for Marketing and Public Relations (NCMPR) awarded the college a national Silver Paragon for an article written by **Heather Darrow**, public relations writer. The article profiled Collin graduate Dena Pritchett who is now a



Heather Darrow

Fulbright Scholar at SMU studying nomadic women in the United Arab Emirates.

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Hospitality January 2008 Newsletter
January 3, 2008
Vol. 6 Issue 5

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Connection Winter '07

Did You Know?

*The Doctors are **IN!***

- **220** Collin College professors hold doctoral degrees. Degrees include M.D., Ph.D., Ed.D., J.D., DVM, DMA, LLD and DC degrees.
- **101** of past and current doctoral candidates at The University of Texas at Dallas attended Collin College first.
- More than **11%** of all U.S. doctorate candidates awarded between 1995-99 attended a community college.

*Albino **Bluebonnets***



Collin Lab Instructor **Jeff Beck** discovered and photographed albino bluebonnets growing on the college's Spring Creek Campus. Biology Professor **Dr. Collin Thomas** is studying the genetics and propagating the species in a Collin laboratory. In addition, Glacial Lakes State Park selected Beck's image of a Collin County purple coneflower to be imprinted on their first commemorative coin.

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Greetings

from The Hospitality and Foodservice Program Chair



Greetings & Happy 2008,

I hope everyone enjoyed their holidays with their families and friends. We have a very busy semester ahead with some exciting opportunities for the students to become more involved with the program, the college, the hospitality industry and the community. I will certainly communicate the abundance of opportunities when the details have been ironed out.

On January 10, I will be presenting the new Culinary Arts program to the Curriculum Advisory Board. I should hear that afternoon if the new Culinary Arts program gets the green light. The Hospitality & Foodservice Management Advisory Board will be meeting on January 18. The program advisory board is made up of industry professionals and academia, their role is to help guide and make recommendations for program

improvement.

Many of you have met Pastry Chef Michele Brown who has joined our faculty full-time. Michele brings many years of experience to the program and will be very instrumental in formulating the Pastry Arts Specialization AAS.

I wish you well this semester.

Cheers!
Karen

A Note from Sheila Kao

sheila

Sheila is taking an extended coffee break...she will be back shortly.

ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

This newsletter will let you know about upcoming activities and programs in the Hospitality & Foodservice Management department and the Hospitality and Culinary Student Association (HCSA). For a format other than text for this newsletter please copy the link below:

<http://www.ccccd.edu/hospitality/newsletters.htm>

Administrative details (like how to be removed from the mailing list) are at the bottom of this mail.

PUBLISHER INFO.

This newsletter will be generated once a month and sent to all HAMG/CHEF students, faculty, staff and Advisory Board members. This mail is sent in format that should be readable from most any e-mail program. If you would like to be removed from the mailing list, please use the "Subscribe/Unsubscribe" box at the bottom of this newsletter.

Program Chair Hospitality & Foodservice Management
9700 Wade Blvd.
Frisco, TX 75035
972.377.1672
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HCSA President's Note

The New Year is here, we welcome 2008
and all the opportunities it will bring!

We have accomplished some wonderful things in 2007 and had some amazing experiences, we look back with nostalgia and forward with excitement. Our next general members meeting is a potluck lunch and is scheduled for, January 18th @ 12:00 at the PRC campus in F150. Bring a great



dish to share.

Chef Morris Salerno is graciously hosting our next chef's table at Grotto Salerno Steak House (aka Il Grotto) at Highland Village in Lewisville on Sunday, January 27, 6 pm. Tickets are available through HCSA.

Valentines Day is around the corner and we are currently working on our wonderful pasta meals, that we sell every year. Each meal is three courses

and feeds two people, for \$25.00; just heat and serve! We will begin taking orders for the meals, when the Spring semester begins.

Please check our website for new pictures, from our recent events and keep a close eye on our website calendar, as we are busy adding new events. Thank you very much, for your continued participation in HCSA, I am honored and excited to serve you!

Cynthia Stafford
President, Hospitality & Culinary Student Association

Calendar of Events

January is Hot Tea Month

January 6-12	Someday We'll Laugh About This Week
January 14	Spring Classes begin Dress Up Your Pet Day
January 18	HCSA Meeting & General Members Meeting Noon, F150, Potluck
January 21	Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday National Hugging Day
January 24	Beer Can Appreciation Day Beer in cans were first sold on this day in 1935.
January 27	Chef's Table at Il Grotto 6 pm, Lewisville, limited seats for \$30 Reserve your spot through HCSA today
January 28	Fun At Work Day (yes, it's possible)

Do you have your **super snacks** ready for **Super Bowl Sunday**?

Be there or be a squaringle on February 3rd

Recipe of the Month

by Meredith Pewitt

Guinness Corned Beef

I made this recipe last St. Patricks Day and it disappeared faster than I could have imagined!

4 pounds corned beef brisket
1 cup brown sugar
1 (12 fluid ounce) can or bottle Irish stout beer (e.g. Guinness™)

1. Preheat oven to 300 degrees F (150 degrees C). Rinse the beef completely and pat dry.
2. Place the brisket on rack in a roasting pan or Dutch oven. Rub the brown sugar on the corned beef to coat entire beef, including the bottom. Pour the bottle of stout beer around, and gently over the beef to wet the sugar.
3. Cover, and place in preheated oven. Bake for 2 1/2 hours. Allow to rest 5 minutes before slicing.

Student Spotlight



Name: Meredith Pewitt

Culinary or Hospitality student: Both

Born and raised in: Allen, Texas

Astrological Sign: My birthday falls on the border day of Aries and Taurus so I have traits from both signs.

My greatest joy is spending time with friends and family and cooking with them of course!

The three things that bring me the greatest joy are my nephew, Christian, cooking and entertaining.

The last restaurant I ate at was Salad Creations!

If I could describe myself in one food item, it would be hash brown casserole because I'm cheesy, good and have lots of layers.

My favorite food is salt crusted prime rib with horseradish cream sauce.

My favorite place in the whole wide world is Bourbon Street! because everyone has a good time on Bourbon Street!

At my fantasy dinner, three guests I would invite would be Julia Child and both of my grandfathers.

If I could change the world, I would start by changing myself.

My favorite quotes are:

"A good cook is like a sorceress who dispenses happiness." - Elsa Schiaparelli

"To reach any significant goal, you must leave your comfort zone." - Hyrum W. Smith

My greatest ambition is to meet my true potential.

Events

Welcome Aboard

This spring semester we have the following talented individuals joining us:

Vernetta Kinchen

Chef Jason Scafuri

Chef James Reichstadt

Chef Will Whitlock

Chef Michele Brown is joining us full-time as the new Pastry Arts/Culinary Arts instructor

Fine Dining in 30 minutes

Our own culinary student, also chef de partie at The French Room, **Steve Knowles** is teaching a class at Market Street on **Monday, January 21 at 6:30-8:30 pm**. It's not too late to feel inspired and learn a new tips in **pan searing and quick pan sauces**. It's never too late to learn.

With his roots from Florida and love of New Orleans cuisine, he will be teaching a class on **Monday, February 11, 6:30-8:30 pm** featuring **Gulf Coast Seafood**. Bring a friend or spouse and make it a Valentine's date. To register for classes, please call Market Street at 972 548-5167.



Breakfast with Frosty

By Robert Lang

Members of the HCSA proudly represented our organization, our program, and our school at the annual "Breakfast with Frosty", which was held at the Renaissance Dallas Hotel the morning of December 14. The event played host to hundreds of underprivileged children who were greeted at the door by Frosty and many of his friends.

Members of the HCSA ushered the children to their tables prior to the



event and then, as the children were leaving for the morning, were delighted to be able to hand them stockings full of yuletide goodies as they exited through the biggest gingerbread house this side of the North Pole. The event featured dancers, the Pearce High School Band, representatives of the Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders, and Santa himself. Olympic gold medalist Carly Patterson read *’Twas the Night Before Christmas*.

When working at an event of this magnitude, I couldn’t help but try to fathom the amount of work that goes on behind the scenes. Someone had

to make all the meals, someone had to coordinate the event, someone had to build the giant gingerbread house, not to mention the amount of time, labor, materials, and so on. As volunteers, we had the easy part as we got to smile and say hello as the children came in and wave goodbye as they departed. However, as HCSA students, we should not only appreciate, but also observe and learn from events such as this. When I stepped back and thought about it, I realized this single event represents a microcosm of what we are learning in our hospitality and culinary program. My advice to students is that any time you get the chance to volunteer for events such as this, do so as you will see the lessons you learn in your classes put to practical use. But even more than that, you’ll come out of feeling pretty good that you helped make someone happy.



Treats for Christmas at the North Park Mall **By Barbara McCauley**

On Saturday, December 15, students assisted the Texas Chef’s Association with The Treats For Christmas charity event at the Neiman Marcus Court at the North Park Mall in Dallas. HCSA, Collin College, Remington and Art Institute of Dallas student volunteers worked together to package donated goodies varying from elaborate Gingerbread houses to Christmas cakes and cookies. Donations were received from many hotels and restaurants in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. I was thrilled to work alongside professional Pastry Chefs in this endeavor of bringing delightful high quality treats for the benefit of The North Texas Food Bank.



Meredith and Jon showcasing the tasty treats.



Maite, Cynthia, Barbara, Meredith and Karen working hard!

Pastry Showcase Success

Many thanks to all those who attended to savor the flavor of all the holiday treats from Chef Michele Brown’s Plated Desserts Class. They presented a beautiful array of desserts on a very cold winter’s evening at the Preston Ridge Library. A big thank you to Sabine Madriguera from the music department for allowing us to borrow two lovely guitarists, Benjamin McCrary and Cassandra Andrews, and to John Mullin and his staff for allowing us to use the PRC library to display the desserts and the gingerbread houses.



Special Feature

From Film Production to Hospitality

By Maite dePalma



After graduating from high school, I started pre-med in Boston where I studied for a year. I returned to Venezuela to continue studying for one more year. After some disappointments, I decided to leave behind a life of tradition and the only thing that was really planned in my life. After a six month break, I was invited to assist an audiovisual lecture at the Mass Communications School at the University. I never left the school again until I got my Bachelor's degree in Mass Communications with a major in Advertising and Public Relations in 1988. Since then I have been working in advertising, marketing and film production of spots, documentaries, music videos and network TV variety shows. Being in the advertising and entertaining field gave me the chance to work for many Latin American personalities and celebrities, as well as some international ones and the stories from those years are many.

Here is one I think you will enjoy. While living in Guatemala, I was called to produce and co-ordinate a documentary for the second official travel of The Pope John Paul II visit to that country coinciding with the signing and declaration of the Peace agreement. This was a very important moment for Guatemalan people and such a commemorative visit for me as well. The Pope was to be in the country for 3 days and I was in charge of covering every single movement related to the holy trip including pre and post reactions and comments from politicians, religious authorities and common people. Quite a challenge considering the security system surrounding the Pope. The Swiss bodyguard corps included seven feet tall, lean sculpted men that formed a human fence to the Pope to protect his every move. And there we were, following him and his bodyguards day and night.

All personnel accredited as press, waited for five hours in a local military airport. The Pope who used to change the protocol frequently decided to forego the private jet and traveled by helicopter instead. That change caused another never-ending delay. I was there with my cameraman and suddenly and accidentally the door to the runway opened. The Pope's armored car arrived and stopped at the helicopter. The Swiss bodyguards moved with the Pope as they descended the helicopter stairs. Without thinking about consequences, I grabbed my camera man, bypassed the soldier guarding the door and started running as fast as I could. I just turned on the camera, Arturo! I shouted. I was running like a runaway horse so by the moment I got next to the car and the helicopter, I wasn't able to stop and stumbled. On my way down, I saw that long ivory robe. I grabbed it, desperate to stop me from plastering the floor. Yes, it was the Pope's robe and by the time I realized what had happened, three of the six big men were on my back trying to grab me, but the Pope stopped them. Kneeling down, I looked up and saw the Pope smiling at me. In his Pope like manner, he made the cross sign over my head and touched my shoulder with a peaceful smile. Everything happened so fast, but he told me he would never forget my face that moment and believe me neither do I.

My previous experiences - pleasing clients, putting huge crews together, being host for celebrities, personalities and figures such as Your Holiness John Paul II has been such training. Medicine, Production and Advertising is all about making everyone happy without letting others aware of what is happening behind the scene. Hospitality is all about the same thing. I am sure hospitality will give me the chance to prove myself again with lower risk, but with all the excitement.

Yours truly,
Maite

Thinking Corner

Letting go of old habits is only one way of refilling life with hope. Taking new classes, sharing new ideas, new aspirations, new friendships, and new adventures counts for



something. Enjoy the moments, you never know how they will change you.

From the wisdom of my 10 year old daughter, Óchange is good!Óand hope still counts.
Happy 2008!

With much joy,
Vernie

Contact Details

If you are interested in submitting an article, a thought, any events you want to promote within the hospitality and food industry, or if you simply like seeing your name in print, don't be shy, we would love to hear from you!

For more information on any activity in this mail, please contact Vernie at vsandbekkhaug@cccd.edu
For more information about CCCCD and its Hospitality & Food Service Management programs, please contact
Karen Musa at

kmusa@cccd.edu or 972-377-1672, or visit <http://www.cccd.edu/hospitality>

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Collin named one of six colleges in the nation to watch

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Former Collin student is celebrity in hit TV series *Ugly Betty*

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Collin professor named best in Texas

Texas' top professor is not at one of the Lone Star State's public or private universities. The number one faculty member in the state is a professor of psychology at Collin County Community College. The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) named Collin's own Jennifer O'Loughlin-Brooks the Texas Professor of the Year!

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Collin, Texas A&M University join forces to celebrate the new 'Aggie Bound' admission agreement

Dogs and cats may be natural enemies, but one canine/feline combo just called a truce. Reveille, the famed Collie mascot of Texas A&M University, and Collin the Cougar joined forces in December when their respective colleges signed a special agreement. Now students who begin their college education at Collin can have guaranteed admission to complete certain degrees at Texas A&M.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



MONOPOLY® back by popular demand!

Back by popular demand, the fast-paced fundraiser MONOPOLY® returns this spring! Take a stroll on the Boardwalk at [MONOPOLY® Madness](#) at 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 24 at The Shops at Willow Bend to help raise scholarship funds for deserving students.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Collin named one of six colleges in the nation to watch

Recently, Collin was recognized as one of six colleges and universities and one of 16 civically-engaged organizations to watch across the United States.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Where are they now?

Former Collin student is celebrity in hit TV series *Ugly Betty*

Former Collin student Michael Urie shared his acting talent with more than 16 million television viewers in the premiere episode of ABC's new comedy "Ugly Betty." Now North Texans can see his hit character every Thursday night.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



High school students double up with dual credit

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Lev Zaltsberg is proud of his son Dmitry for many reasons. But when Dmitry started college full time, Dad was glad he suggested “dual credit” classes at Collin for his son’s senior year at Plano West.
[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



College honors Living Legends

Collin honored (from left) Mike Newman & Jean Newman, Fred Moses & Mazzie Moses, Raymond B. Cooper and (seated) Helen Hall at the Fourth Annual Living Legends Tribute, underwritten by Baylor Regional Medical Center at Plano
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Collin, Texas Tech sign consecutive admission agreement

Collin County Community College District (Collin) and Texas Tech University (Texas Tech) have teamed up to provide students a new route to a degree. Officials from both institutions signed an agreement – titled “Red Raider Bound” – granting qualified Collin students guaranteed admission to Texas Tech, among other perks.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Destination College©: The Higher Education Help Desk

Destination College© is a new initiative at Collin that will help local families prepare for success in college. Watch for upcoming workshops as well as tutoring services, discounted SAT/ACT reviews, refresher courses and more!

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Call for entries is underway for 2006 Living Legends, underwritten by Baylor Regional Medical Center at Plano

Do you know someone who has made a significant contribution to the community? If so, a living legend might be among your circle of colleagues, friends or family.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Where are they now? Dr. Guillermo Ameer's discoveries to make the human body just like new

A quirk of fate steered Dr. Guillermo Ameer from electrical to chemical and biomedical engineering, bringing him acclaim and bringing the world a realm of medicine previously unknown. A Collin graduate, Dr. Ameer is one of 10 Illinois recipients to receive stem cell funding this year, and his research may soon alter the way surgeons practice medicine.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



UTD offers fixed tuition for Collin students

It is a good time to be a student at Collin. More specifically, it is a good time to be a Collin student bound for The University of Texas at Dallas (UTD).

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Student News

Collin's chapter of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) swept the national awards competition at the U.S. convention.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

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Faculty and Staff Highlights

The spotlight is shining on Collin faculty and staff. Learn how your community college is earning national acclaim.

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Did you know...

How has enrollment grown over the last 20 years? How can college fit into a busy schedule? How do businesses access custom training? What special topics are professors studying this year? Click below to find out.

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Increasing number of students seek financial assistance

Red carpet rolls out March 4 for sponsors of Plain & Fancy Ball Texas-Style

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Financing Higher Education:

Increasing number of students seek financial assistance

While Cindy Garcia worked as a waitress, she imagined what it would be like to stand in front of a classroom full of third graders. She is now pursuing a degree in education at Collin County Community College (Collin) because of the generosity of individuals in the community. Garcia is acting on her dream, but there are more dreamers than scholarships to go around.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Red carpet rolls out March 4 for sponsors of Plain & Fancy Ball Texas-Style

Because student need for financial aid is at an all-time high (see related story, above), the college is now seeking supporters for the second annual [Plain and Fancy Ball](#).

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Where are they now? Former student fights bioterrorism

NAME: Elizabeth Dalton

TITLE: Senior Program Analyst, Anteon Corporation

MISSION: To stop terrorists from gaining or using biological weapons; to protect the public if they do



Her life sounds like a spy novel: Flowing past officers of every branch of the military, winding through the Pentagon's outer ring, opening doors marked "Classified Personnel Only" with her thumbprint...Though it sounds like a work of fiction, this is practically an everyday occurrence in the life of Elizabeth Dalton, a biological weapons expert and former Collin student.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

College expands throughout Collin County

Due to student enrollment growth, Collin is expanding facilities at the Preston Ridge Campus in Frisco. Plans are underway to build a 50-60,000-square foot facility for classrooms and faculty offices between Founders and Heritage halls (site pictured at right). The new building will make the campus more comprehensive in order to offer more courses.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Collin honors 2005 'Living Legends'

Recently, Collin recognized pillars of the community at its annual Living Legends Tribute, underwritten for the

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second consecutive year by Baylor Regional Medical Center at Plano.
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Student Highlights

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Did you know?

Collin is growing faster than any college or university in Texas! Check out our interesting statistics.
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Third Collin student in five years named to elite All-USA Academic Team

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Third Collin student in five years named to elite All-USA Academic Team



(Pictured at left during the Phi Theta Kappa annual convention are Collin President Cary Israel, former New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, Adele Bailey and Collin Board of Trustees Chairman Sam Roach.)

When Adele Bailey made remarks in Boston on behalf of the new inductees into the All-USA Academic Team, the spotlight was hers alone onstage in front of college leaders and students from across the U.S. However, she was far from alone back home in achieving the honor. She is one of three Collin students in the last five years to earn the ultimate prize for American community college students.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

2005 Collin County Legends revealed!

Collin is proud to announce the 2005 Living Legends--Richard and Diane Dill of McKinney, Jan Miller of the Anna and Celina communities, Rita G. Smith of Wylie, and Bob Warren of Frisco. Mark your calendar for the third annual tribute ceremony November 12, underwritten by *Baylor Regional Medical Center at Plano!*

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



College offers new programs

The breadth of any community college is not based on where it has been, but where it is going. Collin has a very bright future, which is showcased in the many new programs, certificates and degrees being offered.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

College receives second \$1 million gift

Collin has received an unrestricted \$1 million gift from the estate of Royden Lebrecht. The bequest is the college's second \$1 million gift in as many years, and it will create scholarships as well as the first endowed chair in the college's history--the Lebrecht Chair for the Center for Scholarly and Civic Engagement.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Where are they now?

An insider's view of the White House

Geoff Bailey was one of 100 recent interns at the White House, and he was one of only seven interns selected to work in Vice President Dick Cheney's office. Assigned to

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the White House photographer, he has numerous tales of the wonders of life on Capitol Hill. *(Pictured at left is former Collin student Geoff Bailey along with U.S. Vice President Dick Cheney.)*
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Special Faculty Feature: Educational Philosophies

Meet some of our esteemed faculty as they share their philosophies on higher education.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Student Highlights

HIGHLIGHTS
Student News

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Faculty & Staff Highlights

HIGHLIGHTS
Faculty & Staff

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Special Thanks, Plain & Fancy Ball

Collin County Community College District thanks High Society sponsors of the Plain & Fancy Ball. Watch for details on the next Plain & Fancy Ball set for March 2006!

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Did you know?

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CONNECTION

The Community Update from Collin County Community College District

WINTER/SPRING 2005:
Volume 2, Issue 2

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Plain & Fancy Ball turns educational fairytale to reality for Collin County Community College students

Time is running out to get the hottest ticket in town! Don't miss your chance to strut your stuff on the red carpet at the first-ever "Plain & Fancy Ball" at Collin County Community College while mystery judges pick the Most Fabulous, Most Elegant, Best Couple and Most Creative attire. Check out the [video!](#) (Load with QuickTime through attached link)

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

College helps area brace for health care shortages

Collin County's population in 2004 was estimated at 615,200, and that number will climb to one million by 2025. Nationwide someone turns 50 every eight seconds, and the fastest-growing age bracket in Collin County is 65 plus. With Collin County's population growing and aging, the demand on the health care industry is mounting. You might be surprised to know what your community college is doing to help.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



College accepting applications for 'SMART' scholarships

High school and college students interested math, science, computer science or engineering take note! Scholarships are available thanks to Texas Instruments.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Where are they NOW?



Dr. Clint Feagin & Amanda Self Feagin

Seven years ago if you asked Clint Feagin and Amanda Self what the Farmersville natives wanted to be when they grew up, Clint would have said he definitely wanted to be an expert in his field and Amanda would have told you she was undecided. Today, after earning their degrees, the high school sweethearts are married and have grown into a veterinarian and a teacher.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

New Frisco addition now open

Preston Ridge Campus in Frisco is now the second-largest campus in the Collin County Community College District with the opening of a 103,000 square-foot

expansion.
[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Student Highlights

Collin was one of only three colleges and universities nationwide recognized as an Outstanding Delegation for participation in the Model U.N. program.

From left to right: Professor Dierdre Wendell, Abena Ahenkan, Benjamin Painter, Jon Lucas, Josh Lucas, Josh Curlett, Fauzia Khan, Professor Hope Williams (seated)
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Faculty & Staff Highlights

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Q: What do Rice and the University of Texas have in common with Collin County Community College?

A: Accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS)

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Did you know...

You might be surprised to see how many graduates from area high schools come to Collin County Community College. Check out the percentages.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

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Connection Fall 2006

Texas Instruments makes \$1 million gift to CCCC

Texas Instruments created a \$1 million scholarship endowment for CCCC students who want to become engineers. This is largest endowed gift in the college's 20-year history! *(Pictured from left are students Laura Chavez and Abena Ahenkan; Sam Roach, chair of the CCCC Board of Trustees; Phil Ritter, senior vice president of Texas Instruments; and students Nathan Klick and Raphael Moira.)*



[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Baylor Regional Medical Center at Plano to sponsor 'Living Legends' Tribute Nov. 13

Professor John and Dr. Myrtle Hightower of Plano, Gerry Ruschhaupt of McKinney and Dr. Erwin and Elizabeth Pink of Frisco have been selected as the 2004 Living Legends. They will be honored on November 13 in a ceremony underwritten by Baylor Regional Medical Center at Plano.



[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

National Science Foundation, Texas Workforce Commission announce major grants to CCCC

Good news abounds at Collin County Community College, where two foundations have announced major grants.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Collin County Community College puts on a new face

Fall and change are in the air. If it has been a while since you set foot on a Collin County Community College District (CCCC) campus, then you might be surprised to find that it has changed quite a bit since your last visit.



[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Meet the CCCC Board of Trustees

The business of governing a college rests on the Board of Trustees, which plays a vital role in guiding the college and shaping its success. Community members with a passion for higher education comprise the Collin County Community College District Board of Trustees.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Where are they now? Graduate from first class now a counselor at Plano Senior High School

Timing is everything. Ask Collin County Community College District alumna Vanessa Hundley. When she

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arrived late for her college graduation, the ceremony had ended, but that did not stop her from pursuing her dreams. She is now a counselor at Plano Senior High School.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Final 'MONOPOLY®' raises record total for scholarships

Thanks to generous corporate and private sponsorships, “An Evening of MONOPOLY® on Ice” raised a record amount for scholarships this year, bringing in more than \$180,000.

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Faculty & Staff Highlights

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Student News

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Did You Know?

Check out charts and graphs showing enrollment, tuition comparisons, distance education growth, and more!

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Welcome to our community e-newsletter!

Today, members of the community are receiving the very first issue of Collin County Community College District's electronic newsletter *Connection*. Enjoy!

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

ABC News anchor Peter Jennings broadcasts at CCCCD

Peter Jennings of ABC's World News Tonight joined several local journalist in town hall meeting to discuss "Media Matters" with college students.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Collin County Community College offers challenging academics

True or false: Students want easy classes. Surprisingly, many of today's best and brightest college students want a challenge rather than a walk in the park.

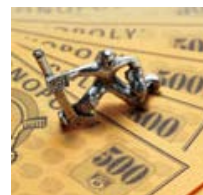
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An Evening of MONOPOLY On Ice: CCCCD Foundation, Inc. hosts fourth annual fundraiser

The Collin County Community College District Foundation, Inc. hosts the fourth annual "An Evening of Monopoly."

The twist this year is that it will be on ice!

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Appraisal District says tax growth down; planning strengthens college

Good news! *The Dallas Morning News* reported recently that Collin County Community College District has the lowest tax growth rate of any educational entity in the county, referring to data from the Central Appraisal District of Collin County.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Where are they now? Former student featured as lead character in animated cartoon series

Riding the crest of a recent tsunami is voice actress and former CCCCD drama student, Laura Bailey. Bailey is a voice-over actress, sometimes called a re-dub artist, in that subculture of Japanese animation known as anime (A-ni-may).

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Collin County Economic Summit set for March 30

Business and community leaders interested in the future of the local economy will get a preview at the 2004 Collin County Economic Summit set for March 30.
[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Faculty & Staff Highlights
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Student Highlights
Hats off and congratulations to our many outstanding students like Bizu Ejigu, picture at the right.
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Did you know...
CCCCD is a "College of Firsts."
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