

The team placed well across many events and took gold medals in debate, theater, limited preparation, oral interpretation, and platform speaking.

Campbell Gorlinski and Nina Menzagopian won top speaker awards. Gorlinski ranked as the state's top debate speaker, competing against over 100 students. Menzagopian won top speaker overall in the state out of over 200 students and took home three gold medals.

The team's performance was a stunning comeback from not even placing in the top 5 at the regional tournament. The next step is the national championship title with the 2023 Phi Rho Pi Tournament on April 9-15 in Rockville, MD.

competition.

Individual awards were given to former Sports Editor and current USC student Chris Bibona and former Editor in Chief Sarah Guidroz. Bibona took first place for his 2022 Sports Game Story, "The 14 Game," and an honorable mention for his sports column, "The Plank." Guidroz won a second-place honor for her 2022 editorial for Student Press Day. James was honored for her 2022 news photo of the OCTA bus strike.

JACC On-The-Spot contests were held throughout the San Francisco conference weekend. Reporter Anna Tran won second place in the Editorial Cartoon category, and Sports Editor Timothy Hessen won third place in the Sports Writing category. Honorable mentions were given to Features Editor Liz Hanna in Opinion Writing and Multimedia Editor Colin Sweeney in two categories: News Photo and Sports Photo.



Orange Coast College Horticulture Dept. hosting Spring Plant Sale April 7 & 14

Orange Coast College is reviving its annual Spring Plant Sale on April 7 and 14 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Horticulture center.

The OCC and surrounding community is invited to visit the first two Fridays of the month to purchase plants produced by students of the Horticulture Program as part of their hands-on learning.



Coast Report Wins Journalism Honors

Orange Coast College's student paper, Coast report, won 11 awards on March 11 at the Associated Collegiate Press/Journalism Association of Community Colleges (ACP) Spring National Student Media Conference in San Francisco, including a top 10 ACP Best in Show News Website honor.

"We are very humbled and honored to be recognized for these awards," Coast Report adviser Professor Jeremy Shermak said. "There is no better place in the country to practice community college journalism than California. We are running with the best, and these are the future leaders of journalism. It is quite an honor."

Coast Report received a 10th place win for its website in the ACP's two-year schools Best in Show News Website category. Among nine California schools, CR finished in the top ten out of over 30 nationwide. Including an overall General Excellence Award for news websites, CR won 10 additional awards in the JACC state

"It's full circle for the students," Horticulture Instructor and Lab



Did you Know? With Kevin Ballinger

Did you know that Joe DiMaggio played Baseball on the very ground of the future Orange Coast College? In this old photo from

1944, displayed at the college a few years ago, you can see Joe DiMaggio on the right, second player. He played for the Santa Ana Army Air Base (SAAB) baseball team between 1943 & 1944. He enlisted in the Army in February 1943 and was stationed at the SAAB until he was transferred to a Hickam base in Hawaii in 1944. He gave up his MLB salary of over \$43,000 to earn only \$50/month in the Army.

Other amazing photos of Joltin Joe playing at SAAB are posted at Baseball in Wartime - Joe DiMaggio.

What about OCC Baseball? OCC fielded a baseball team in our first year and won the Eastern Conference Championship by defeating Fullerton JC at the Pirate's last game of the year in 1949. That same year, 1949, Joltin Joe's Yankees beat the Brooklyn Dodgers in the World Series - maybe it was the Costa Mesa good luck dirt!

Celebrate our 75th Anniversary Baseball game by seeing the OCC Pirates game on Saturday, April 15th at noon at the John Altobelli Park (OCC baseball field).

And if that is not enough baseball, The Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim will host "Orange Coast College Night" on Friday, May 19, against the Minnesota Twins, beginning at 6:38 p.m. Tickets include an Angels and Orange Coast College co-branded hat!

For comments and suggestions: kballinger.r@retiree.cccd.edu






Reboot/5th Annual Pirate's Plank Business Pitch Competition

OCC will host the Reboot of the 5th Annual Pirate's Plank business pitch competition on Thursday, April 6, 2023, at 6:45 p.m. in the Robert B. Moore Theatre.

Three local business owners will judge the competition as the six contestants each attempt to impress them with their unique business pitch. Pirate's Plank is a platform for students to present their business ideas to the judges, who will offer contestants feedback in a similar model to ABC's Shark Tank show.

The judges will listen to the presentation, ask questions regarding the product's viability in the marketplace, and offer advice on how to improve their solution and presentation. Each student who presents will receive invaluable advice. Two students will be selected as the winners with the titles "Most Likely to Succeed" and "Most Innovative." These two winners will receive cash prizes of \$500 each, an internship in the OCC MakerSpace, and one-on-one consultation with Digital Media Expert Professor Cora Volkoff.



Sexual Assault Awareness Month and LGBTQIA+ Pride Month at OCC