Kelly Chiffer Selected as 2011 Outstanding Graduate of the Year

Chiffer is a Psychology major with a 4.0 GPA and played on the volleyball team for two seasons.

Kelly Chiffer, a Psychology major with a 4.0 grade-point average, is Cypress College’s 2011 Outstanding Graduate of the Year. A goal-oriented student and member of the two-time conference champion women’s volleyball team, she will continue both her studies and athletic participation at Texas Tech in the fall.

Chiffer says that she became interested by and curious about the criminal mind — especially those of serial killers — when she was a young girl. The fascination continued with TV shows such as Unsolved Mysteries and various documentaries. Although her interest in the criminal psyche remained, Chiffer says that in high school she also wanted to learn more about disorders such as anorexia nervosa and depression.

“Her performance has been at one of the highest levels I have seen over the past few years in the course,” said Randy Martinez, Chair of the Psychology Department. “As a student, she displays the characteristics of a dedicated learner. Ms. Chiffer is inquisitive, objective and has a passion for acquiring knowledge.”

Likewise, volleyball has also shaped Chiffer’s life. During the past decade, she has traveled to cities across the nation and spent countless hours in the gym practicing drills to perfection. Head volleyball coach Nancy Welliver played a key role in bringing Chiffer to Cypress College. During her time here, the team recorded its first two conference titles and participated in the California state championship tournament — finishing second in the 2010 season.

In September 2010, Chiffer was recognized with selection to the San Diego Mesa All-Tournament Team. During her freshman season in 2009, Chiffer was honored with 2009 All-State Tournament Team and All-League Second Team selections.

“Kelly is one of the hardest working players that I have had the pleasure of coaching,” said Welliver. “She not only works hard in the gym, but works equally, if not harder, in her courses. She is always determined to give her very best and willing to...”

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The Chargers host the Softball Super Regionals at on campus this weekend after winning two of three games against Citrus College in the First Round of the Southern California Regional held at Cypress this past weekend.

Also advancing to the double-elimination style Super Regional Round are two fellow Orange Empire Conference teams, Riverside and Santa Ana College, as well as Antelope Valley.

Cypress faces the SAC Dons in the opening game of the Supers at 2 p.m. on Friday, May 13. Riverside and Antelope Valley square off at 4 p.m. The winners of those two contests will meet at noon on Saturday, May 14, with the winner advancing to Sunday’s competition.

The losing teams from Friday’s games will face off in an elimination game at 2 p.m. to see who has to go home, and who gets to move on to play the losing team from the first game on Saturday. The winner of that matchup, which is slated for 4 p.m., will play again on Sunday against the for a chance to advance to the State Championships.

In 2011, Cypress has gone 13-3 against six of the seven other teams remaining in the Southern Bracket — the Chargers have not faced top-seeded Mt. San Antonio in the Southern Bracket — seven other teams remaining for the for a chance to advance to the State Championships.

While a student at Cypress College, Moore played basketball for legendary coach Don Johnson. By name recognition, Moore likely isn’t the most-recognizable of a group that includes NBA standouts Swen Nater and Mark Eaton. However, Johnson calls Moore “THE most inspirational athlete in Cypress College Basketball history.” Double underlined, all caps: “THE.” Clearly the revered Johnson holds Moore in the highest regard.

“Johnson became the role model for future players,” Johnson wrote in nominating Moore for the Outstanding Alumnus award. “He was the essence of the ‘TSU’ (tough, smart, unselfish) athlete. John’s loyalty to Cypress College is, in my mind, unsurpassed. He feels his position in life today is a direct result of the transformation process that occurred here.”

After 18 seasons as head coach of Westmont Men’s Basketball, Coach Moore has accumulated a record of 355-197 (.643) at Westmont and an overall record of 434-271 (.616) in 23 years as a head coach. His accomplishments at Westmont include three Golden State Athletic Conference tournament championships and six trips to the NAIA national tournament, including a NAIA Final Four appearance in 1999. Moore has coached 22 All-GSAC players, seven NAIA All-Americans, and seven All-American Scholar-Athletes. In addition, each senior in his program has graduated to Westmont in 1976, where his career total of 422 assists ranks fourth, despite playing only two years.

Outside of his coaching duties, Moore runs basketball camps and high school tournaments. Moore also has international experience, taking part in several tours throughout Asia, where he spent 10 years of his childhood. He has coached the junior national teams for the countries of Bangladesh and Sudan. Moore served as part of the USA Basketball Committee in 2002, helping to select the 19-and-under team which included such players as Carmello Anthony, Deron Williams and Christopher Bosh.

Moore comes from a basketball family. His brother Mike starred at Westmont in the mid-’80s, while his sister Beth was a member of UCLA’s national championship team in 1978. Moore’s wife, Rachel, served for several years as the director of her family’s Lavin Basketball Camps. Her brother, Steve, is the former head basketball coach at UCLA and is now an ESPN basketball analyst.

John and Rachel live in Montecito with their daughters Jacqueline (14) and Jessica (12).

College Basketball Coach John Moore is 2011 Outstanding Alumnus with a degree from Westmont.

“Coaching and teaching is more meaningful for me today than it was eight to ten years ago,” said Moore. “We come to coach because there is a relational element which becomes more significant the deeper you get into it. The success is always going to be meaningful. We are competitors as coaches. But there is a greater success that lies in a meaningful life.”

Moore, a member of the Cypress College Athletic Hall of Fame, transferred from Portland Community College to Cypress College, where he is the Basketball Coach, Associate Athletic Director, and an Associate Professor of Kinesiology. He sits on the NAIA Men’s Basketball Ratings Oversight Committee, has coached junior teams internationally, and has hosted a number of basketball camps and tournaments at the high school level and below.

For nearly a half-million students, Cypress College has been a springboard to their dreams. Cypress College: Motivating Minds.
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Hotel, Restaurant, and Culinary Arts Students Thriving in Restaurant Environment at Anaheim Campus

Cypress College students feel passionate about their studies in the school’s Hotel, Restaurant, and Culinary Arts program (HRC). They are provided with a diverse curriculum that combines reality-based instruction with hands-on experience both on- and off-campus.

Culinary Arts students Kevin Bui and Chelsea Clapper won first place representing Cypress College at the annual 2010 New Directions: New Frontiers Community College Culinary Arts and Hospitality Competition and Symposium. Executive Chef Jeremy Peters encourages his students to participate in culinary arts competitions because he said that it trains them to have discipline, organizational skills, persistence, and dedication.

The Bistro is a student-run restaurant, located at North Orange County Community College District (NOCCCD) Anaheim Campus on 1830 W. Romneya Dr. in Anaheim. It gives the HRC students on-campus experience. They learn about customer service by being restaurant managers, hosts, servers, busers, and runners in the dining room, while the culinary arts students prepare gourmet food entrees in their state-of-the-art kitchen.

HRC Department Coordinator Lisa Clark, and Chef Jeremy believe that it’s important for students to know how to work both the “front-of-the-house” and “back-of-the-house.” The main purpose is so that they can learn how to create a better dining environment. Clark and Chef Jeremy, aided by Chef Stephanie Rosati, assistant Tracey Heine, and other HRC faculty members, teach and guide the students to prepare them to have successful careers in the hotel and restaurant industries.

The students also have opportunities to transfer to four-year colleges and universities, such as Cal-Poly Pomona, well-known for its nationally top-rated hotel and restaurant management programs. Clark said that many hospitality students, who continue on to advance their education, will be able to earn B.A. degrees, and enter into director, and executive-level positions.

Students majoring in culinary arts learn everything from basic cooking skills and proper sanitation and safety methods to how to master their knife techniques, cook in quantities, plan and cost menus, and make perfect pastries. This semester the advanced culinary students have been focusing on preparing American regional dishes and international cuisine, creating three-course lunch menus that are served in the Bistro on Thursdays.

In addition to their vocational training, students can earn Associate Arts degrees and certificates in the Hotel, Restaurant, and Culinary Arts fields. They also have curriculum opportunities linking to the Cypress College Management and Marketing Department programs, which enable them to earn dual certificates.

“The dual certificates absolutely help our students with opportunities of promotion in this industry,” said Clark, who developed these certificates with Patti Kishel, Professor and Department Coordinator of Management and Marketing.

One of the dual certificates which has been especially popular with students is the Special Event Management Certificate, according to Clark. She notes that there is also a Restaurant/Lodging Entrepreneur Certificate. Kishel, Clark’s partner from the Business Division, said that she is a strong supporter of the joint certificate programs. “It’s great working with the Hospitality Department to create dual certificates so that both our students can benefit from them in pursuing their HRC careers,” said Kishel. Clark was proud to announce that there will be 23 HRC students walking for graduation with Associates Arts degrees at the end of the 2011 Spring semester.

Story and sidebar by Sunny Magdaug. Ms. Magdaug, a student in the Marketing Department, is an intern in the Cypress College Public Information Office.

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Help her teammates when they need it.”

Outside of school, Chiffer volunteers with the non-profit Brain Rehabilitation and Injury Network. Through B.R.A.I.N., she interacts with individuals ranging in age from 18-65 with acquired brain injuries.

After receiving her bachelor’s degree in Psychology from Texas Tech, Chiffer plans to earn both a master’s and PhD in hopes of becoming either a forensic or clinical psychologist. “My goal for the future is to become an independent, successful woman and to help others overcome obstacles and attain goals of their own.”

Annual Transfer Center Celebration Held to Recognize Students Move on to Universities

More than 60 students and faculty attend the annual Transfer Celebration, held on May 12, 2011 in the Cypress College Complex, Room 414. The even recognizes students who are continuing their education at a university following completion of their studies here.