



# The Bakersfield College Archives Newsletter

April 2009

Volume 8, Issue 1

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## JOHN BOYDSTUN: BC Alumnus

By Bob Covey

John Boydston, Bakersfield's well known and highly respected local realtor, was the founding president of the Bakersfield College Alumni Association and has served that organization ever since." He attended Kern County Union High School and entered Bakersfield Junior College in the fall of 1937 and graduated in 1939. By 1941 at the age of twenty-one he had became the youngest licensed realtor in California. While he was at the junior college, the head cheerleader, Augie Shroeder, needing a third male on the cheerleading team for football games, asked Boydston to help out, and he agreed. Thus began his lifelong enthusiasm for the school.

Boydston recalled being present as a freshman in the fall of 1937 at a meeting of all male college students which had been called by President Grace Bird. According to John, some seventy boys took their seats, and Bird said it was time to change the nickname of the college to something more suitable than Renegades. She felt the name was demeaning to the college, even though the BC teams had been called the Renegades [Webster: "turncoats"] for over ten years. According to Boydston, the boys sat quietly until suddenly an older freshman, Dean Gay, stood and said clearly, "We ARE the Renegades!" His words ended all discussion.

In the spring of 1938 Boydston went out for Coach Percy Bliss' track team. Bliss asked Boydston to run the 880 in the annual interclass track meet, but Johnny had no training or interest in racing the half-mile. Yet he agreed, as was Boydston's habit. If someone asked him to try something, he usually said "yes." He came to the starting line knowing he could not possibly finish the two-lap race, so he started to plan where he could inconspicuously step off the track. The race started and Maurice Coombs led through the first lap with Boydston just behind. Cheering students sat in the stands and stood around the track. Boydston planned his exit from the race as he ran in second place behind Coombs down the first back-stretch and to the 440-yard post. When the race was



John Boydston on 1938 debate team

half over, he glanced behind to see where the other runners were and saw his friend Jim Radoumis in third place, twenty yards behind. Suddenly Coombs tripped and fell, leaving Boydston in first with a big lead. Now, he had a problem, and he could no longer inconspicuously quit the race. He ran down the back-stretch with Radoumis closing on him, but Boydston was now committed to finish and win the race. Radoumis closed on Boydston and nearly caught him at the finish line. As the students cheered, Boydston found his girlfriend in the stands and blew her a kiss, then walked into the infield. His time was 2:20 and that would be the only victory for him ever in the sport of track and field.

Standing at his desk seven decades later, he remembered and related that day in 1938 clearly, with humor, excitement, and some pride. Today, Boydston can often be found at his office at 326 Chester Avenue in Bakersfield. He believes he is the oldest active realtor in California and perhaps the nation. ☺



Bakersfield  
COLLEGE



## STEERING COMMITTEE

Dr. Robert Allison
Dr. John Collins
Charlotte Cox
Robert Covey
Dr. Ken Fahsbender
Jeri Haner
Dr. Jack Hernandez
Mary Jones
Tracy Lovelace
Robert Parsons
Susan Pinza
Gayle Richardson
Bonnie Suderman
Becki Whitson



# BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE DOWNTOWN CENTER

By Dr. Chuck Carlson

The Bakersfield College Downtown Center (DTC) came into being when Fedway Department store closed at 21st and Chester Avenue in Downtown Bakersfield. The Kern Community College District was looking for new offices, and Bakersfield College was working to enlarge its programs in occupational areas, particularly in the Business Education area.

KCCD then proceeded to purchase the building (1972-73) and hired the firm of Bigger and Cartnal to design and lead the remodeling of the building. Bakersfield College started working on the programs that would be transferred to or developed at the new downtown campus. We were very interested in working with downtown businesses and government agencies in developing our programs.

One of the leading program changes made was the development of a new open-entry, open-exit business program. This was a new approach around the state but one strongly supported by local business groups. "Open-entry and open-exit classes" meant classes that students could enter and exit at any time. This was very important for businesses, as they then could refer job applicants who were not quite at the competency level they wanted but who could become so with a little class work. They could also take promotional competency tests any time during the year. It also meant prospective students would not have to wait until the beginning of a new semester to begin their classes.

Along with this approach came a new architectural emphasis in designing many of the classroom areas as open-space areas. This meant there would be no classrooms in the Business Department, for example, only areas divided by moveable wall panels which are so common in businesses today. This was truly a radical change for the Business Department, its faculty, and Bakersfield College.

This new approach became very popular with business and government agencies, and the DTC became the center for job-entry competency testing for new hires and promotions throughout the Bakersfield area, in addition to a lot of in-service kinds of training, etc. Also added were several new programs such as Court Reporting and Modeling.

Included on the ground floor was an administrative area and a large lecture room which could, in turn, be divided up into four smaller lecture areas as needed. The remaining space on the ground floor was developed into a state-of-the-art Electronics Center, and that program moved from the main campus to the DTC. The second floor was not developed by BC at this time, but the KCCD moved into the west side of the second floor.

These programs were very successful and continued to grow until the passage of Proposition 13, which caused BC to reduce staff and programs. Other activities and programs have been located at the DTC throughout the years, and the Center also changed its name to The Weill Institute, thanks to a generous financial contribution to the College. ☺

# BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE DOWNTOWN CENTER

By Dr. John J. Collins

At the same April Board meeting in 1972 as I was hired to become the fifth President of Bakersfield College, the Board also took action to establish the Downtown Center to be housed in the old Fedway Department Store Building where it remains thirty-six years later. Having a downtown campus of Bakersfield College was a dream of Ed Simonsen, the third President of the College, and by 1972 the first Chancellor of the Kern Community College District. He was committed to the concept of taking the college to where the people lived or worked. In this case he viewed a fairly large population of workers who were employed downtown, as potential students. Back in those days, prior to the establishment and growth of shopping malls, what we now still call downtown Bakersfield truly employed thousands of workers, was the civic center of the town, and a fairly large population worked in the shops and offices located there. The new Downtown Center was located right in the heart of downtown Bakersfield giving Bakersfield College the presence it wanted.

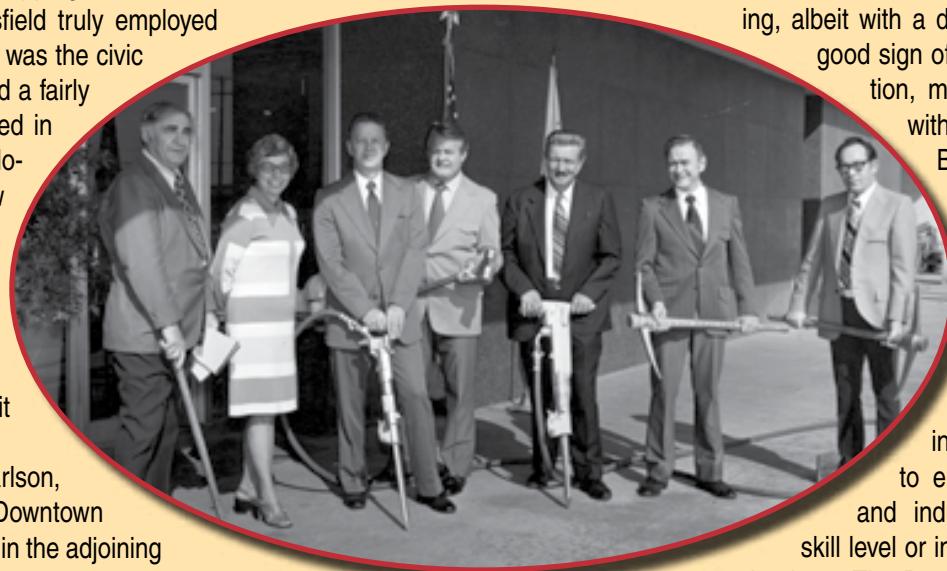
As Dr. Charles Carlson, the first Dean of the Downtown Center, has described in the adjoining article, the College set out to try to accommodate the working population of downtown by offering short term, open entry/open exit classes in business, management, basic skills, and the new field of computer science, as it was called back in those years, long before computers appeared on every desk

in business establishments, legal offices, government centers, and colleges. Open entry/open exit classes, and open space for classrooms was a little revolutionary for both teaching staff and students, and it wasn't long before more conventional offerings were added to the curriculum, and the open spaces came to be enclosed. Tradition is a powerful force in education, and not to be taken lightly by administrators or faculty who want to try something different.

In all of this development Ed Simonsen was a major player. He strongly supported the Downtown Center, moved the District offices onto the second floor, held all Board meetings there, and viewed it as the center of the District operation. Changing conditions in the downtown area have moved the center of activities to Truxtun Avenue near the courts and legal offices. Retailing has mainly moved to the shopping malls. And the Downtown Center has branched out into contract education serving businesses with custom offerings that meet their particular needs, and for which they pay the costs.

That the Downtown Center is still functioning, albeit with a different curriculum, is a good sign of the flexibility of education, meeting changing needs with changing offerings.

Bakersfield College is, and has been, committed to serving large numbers of students who are interested in moving on to four year colleges and universities, or providing the training leading to employment in business and industry at a demanding skill level or in the burgeoning field of technology. The Downtown Center is part of the history of Bakersfield College, and is still giving students the boost they need to better themselves. ☺



Downtown Center groundbreaking, 1974 pictured from L to R:Charlie Katzman, Barbara Hoyt, Dell Whetsler, Paul Howard, Lanning Flint, Ed Hageman, Al Berardi

## Interesting Acquisitions

Since the last Newsletter we have taken in 47 acquisitions. Some of the more unusual ones are listed:

- Judge Jon Stuebbe donated his red and white striped sweater from 1967 when he was a yell leader.  
(See the photo of the display case, page 11)
- The Allied Health Department donated scrapbooks from 1957 – 1979 containing photographs of graduating classes and pinning ceremonies ALL IDENTIFIED!!
- Memorabilia from Gil Bishop's collection included an official Olympic team USA duffel bag from the Montreal Olympics in 1976 where he officiated.
- Ray Maranda donated a 1951 football program.
- A 1937 commencement program was among other items from Danny O'Neill's collection, donated by his nephew, Mike O'Neill.
- Charlotte Cox donated a BC football seat cushion printed with the 1966 football schedule and ads from old time businesses like McCarthy Tank & Steel, Golden Crust, Oak Street Car Wash, Sullivan's, The Cue Ball, and Ball Carpet.

# **TITLE IX** and the **Bakersfield College Women's Program**

By Merriem Palitz

[Editor's Note: This is a shortened version of a series of emails from Merriem Palitz. Her complete comments, along with those of John Collins below, will be available on the Archives Website (currently under construction).]

As I recall, the two people who started the Women's Program were Phyllis Dabbs and Mary Copeland, and they invited me to join them to teach Sex Roles and the Law. At that time, as I recall, Jane Watts was teaching Women in Literature, and she was the first coordinator. I may have been the second, with Helen Gordon following me, and then Phyllis Hullett. Others involved in setting up the facility were Dalene Osterkamp and Donna Litherland.

The project was initiated by the frustration of the women coaches who had been promised an increase in compensation of just \$100 apiece, but the board decided not to approve it until the compensation of the men coaches was reviewed. The women then came to the teachers involved in the women's program for help, and we heard about the miserable treatment of coaches and women athletes--including such indignities as giving the girls only those tennis balls the boys had discarded and requiring the girls to play their matches on the slanted courts where the balls rolled down hill while the boys practiced on the level ones.

Lucille Sautter became very active, both in promoting the program and in providing the information which enabled us to negotiate for a change in the treatment of women in athletics. Phyllis Dabbs and I negotiated with President John Collins, on behalf of the group. His poise and fairness made it possible to make the changes with as little rancor as possible. As he put it, we educated him and he undertook to educate the male coaches.

The faculty women involved made a written report to John showing disparate treatment of women and men in use of facilities, opportunities for students to compete, and payment of coaches among others. Sybil Hilton and Phyllis Hullett were two of the four coaches we were negotiating for, plus Harriet Sheldon was active in the effort. She headed counseling but previously had been a coach.

When Phyllis Dabbs and I came to the group with the new conditions giving women fairer treatment to which John Collins had agreed, Phyllis and I were startled because the coaches sat stony faced when we expected them to rejoice. Their explanation was that they did not believe us because it had been so long that they had tried fruitlessly to get things changed. I was so excited I embraced one of the coaches. She shuddered. Then Harriet Sheldon explained to me that the particular coach did not like to be touched.

What I remember with great clarity is the fantastic party that the coaches gave for the women who worked on their behalf. It started at Sybil Hilton's house with beautiful appetizers and powerful drinks, and then we all piled into Harriet's big Cadillac for

the ride down the freeway to KC Steakhouse. Georgene Bihlman was sitting in the ash tray, she claimed. After dinner, Sybil Hilton put Harriet in the passenger's seat up front, then sat down in the driver's seat and pulled the seat up so Sybil's feet could reach the pedals. She folded

Harriet up like a collapsible ruler. I sat in the back praying that the Highway Patrol was busy elsewhere.

#### **John Collins Comments:**

Title 9 was the Federal statute that was intended to bring about change, and it did. As a matter of fact it was the backing I needed to help us bring about the change. Like affirmative action and the Civil Rights laws of the 70s, we used Title 9 to get the job done. In the same way, affirmative action gave us the clout needed to effect changes in hiring. So did the Civil Rights Act! Without the backing of the Federal government on these issues, we would still be back there in the 50s with discrimination in the driver's seat. ☺

**"NO PERSON in the UNITED STATES SHALL, on the basis of sex, BE EXCLUDED from participation in, BE DENIED the benefits of, OR BE SUBJECTED TO DISCRIMINATION under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance."**



BC Campus Center in 1958. Life Magazine, hosted by Google

#### **Life Magazine presents Bakersfield College**

In 1958 Life Magazine published black and white pictures of Bakersfield Junior College at the new campus on the hill. To take a look at these vintage photos go to the web address below and type in Bakersfield College:

<http://images.google.com/hosted/life>



Dr. Edward Teller



Jane Fonda



Christo

Credit: Wolfgang Voit

# MORE GHOST VOICES at Bakersfield College

By Ron Dethlefson

Many interesting national and international personalities have spoken at Bakersfield College over the years, mostly in the 1970s when funding was more available. One day during those years I was walking into the Administration Building when I saw an elderly gentleman coming toward me, and he was obviously not a BC student. I remember he was carrying a bulging briefcase and that he appeared to be lost near the records office. I suddenly recognized him, and I thought it was strange that Dr. Edward Teller, Father of the H-Bomb, was walking around unescorted. I was about to offer my help, but someone came out from Bill Heffernan's office and directed Dr. Teller to our president's office. Later when Dr. Teller spoke at the college theater, we were all mightily impressed to have such an important and historical figure in our midst.

Another famous speaker was Jane Fonda, the movie actress, whose November 2, 1972 presence on our campus was controversial and even secretive due to her views about the U.S. involvement in Vietnam. Strong protests were made to the college administration for allowing her to speak at all. However, John Collins and Jack Hernandez held that her appearance was a clear demonstration of free speech. They were also backed up by an editorial in *The Bakersfield Californian* along the same lines. On Ms. Fonda's speaking day she was somehow smuggled onto campus (there had been threats on her life), and she quickly stepped onto the college theater stage, downstage

right, behind a large lectern. The theater and even the amphitheater where the speech was piped were packed. She never strayed from behind the lectern during her speech and quickly disappeared into the wings and was spirited off campus. I don't recall that she took questions from our audience, although she did take questions during a Channel 17 interview taped earlier that day.

In early 1991 even the artist Christo made an appearance on the college theater's stage, however with much less secrecy. His umbrella project in the mountains south of Bakersfield had generated a great deal of curiosity, so a good sized audience filled the theatre. An interesting attention-getting factor in his favor was his strong physical resemblance to actor Woody Allen. In his talk Christo explained the unusual art project well and even put to rest any fears the audience may have had that he was going to ask for cash donations. He stressed that he and his wife Jeanne-Claude were funding Umbrella projects simultaneously in both Kern County and in Japan through the sale of art works depicting the Umbrellas. He didn't mention the fact that his wife's situation as a very wealthy woman may have stemmed the need for advance funding. ☺

**READERS:** If you have interesting memories of any of the eminent speakers who came to BC in the 1970s or later, please share them with us at the Archives.



# THE GYM HUDDLE MURAL

**By David Rosales**

walkways and lawns allow for the peaceful ambience of the higher education experience. Of course, each season is nuanced in Bakersfield but those of us who have lived here for some time can distinguish the time of year when walking the campus. For me, the college gym houses a work of art that complements the seasons on campus.

There is an area on campus known as the Huddle, an area between the gym's profound glass portico and the concessions stand. The Huddle has hosted college faculty meetings, award banquets, club dances, rally squad tryouts, and has served as a food court. But the beautiful sports mural above the concession stand is what is priceless. The art spans nearly the width of the entire gym and can be seen from the new quad in front of the football stadium and gym complex.

The mural origins are interesting, and the project itself was my first major decision as a college administrator in 1981. Previously I had seen murals at West Hills College while at a student government conference. The idea of murals on campus impressed me much like the murals of Diego Rivera and Juan Orozco. I certainly didn't know that the opportunity to bring a mural to campus was a possibility, much less a sports mural, which in effect was a mural of BC's athletic heritage.

That fall I met with Karen Jones, then program manager for

When most of us walk the BC campus, we sometimes tend to forget how beautiful the campus is with its rolling hills nestled between the powerful feel of its permanent structures.

The large pines that line the

the CETA community public art project, which proposed the mural project. Her organization would pay for the artist and BC would pay for the art supplies, but the college would provide space for the proposed sports mural. The head artist for the program was Ismael Saco, a former BC student, assisted by Danny Marines and five or six student artists who would do fill-in work. Saco's staff was supported by the college support staff, including the custodial and the business office.

The work of Saco and Marines, the lead artists, can be distinguished from that of the students, and there is also a distinction between Saco's work and that of Marines as well. The left side detail of the mural, up to the middle of the project, shows Saco's work. The crowd scene, the trophy and automobile, the old Bakersfield Inn sign, the football images and the Renegade Knight are examples of his artistic attention to detail. The right portion of the mural is not as detailed due to Saco's untimely death in a Florida auto accident, and the unexpected de-funding of the project.

After the de-funding and over the next few years, Saco visited every summer to finish the mural. After Saco's death, Danny Marines, who lives and works in San Diego, completed the mural in the early 1990s. His effort to finish the mural in memory of his friend and at his own expense was strictly a labor of love.

Over the years, many folks have asked about the people in the mural. The crowd scene is composed of the artists, their students, celebrities, and their BC friends. Some of the folks in the crowd scene include Mary K. Shell, Brooke Shields, Leon Ragsdale, Jess Soto, Kathy Rosellini, Ray Maranda, Emmett Herrera, Bruce Jenner, Don Rodewald, Daryl Kalar, Emil Birks, and Dr. Romaine Clerou. Those of you with a keen eye might recognize the big guy in the front of the crowd scene with the tweed coat and pipe in hand. Being shy I declined a photo request from the artists, so they ambushed me and took a picture, then made a mad dash for parts unknown. That's how I wound up in the crowd scene.

This artwork was innovative for our campus and a shared commitment to its completion. Both Ismael Saco and Danny Marines were outstanding contributors to the heritage of Bakersfield College and should be enshrined in the BC Hall of Fame. Additionally, as the years wear on the sports mural is beginning to show signs of aging. Surely a campus committee could be formed to fundraise money in order to restore and protect this priceless artwork. May I suggest that you enjoy a campus walk and visit the mural during your favorite season of the year. ☺

**READERS: If you can identify anyone in the mural, please let us know.**





# Memories Of The Sixties at Bakersfield College

By Dr. Ken Fahsbender

One would assume that a junior college located in Bakersfield might have been immune to the social pressures of the sixties, which impacted larger institutions of higher learning in America. I pondered this issue as I spent a sabbatical year (1964-65) pursuing an advanced degree at Stanford.

Mario Salvo's speeches at Berkeley were big news in 1964 and created a perfect topic of discussion for those who prepared to be administrative leaders in colleges and universities. Three years later, I was confronted with a situation at Bakersfield College, which tested our college, our community and our students. The 1968 Summer Olympics in Mexico City is most remembered for a social symbol of clenched fists during a medal ceremony. As BC's 1968 fall semester began, our BC students had elected an energetic and personable black student to be yell leader. He was a fan favorite until he chose to emulate Tommie Smith and John Carlos of our U.S. Olympic track team at a home football game in front of 15,000 Renegade fans. When the booing began during the band's playing of our national anthem, I searched for a reason from my upper deck seats and finally saw our yell leader with his clenched fist. I rushed down to the track and with the help of our Director of Student Activities, whisked the bewildered yell leader out of the stadium to safety.

President Finlinson had influential civic leaders near him in the audience and one can imagine the pressure he endured during the remainder of the game. The Associated Students at BC had a set of rules in place to cover conduct of elected student officers and appropriate penalties, which would be considered by the student court. I'll never forget my walk across our campus with the president following the game. He considered the harsh discipline suggested by the community and my plea that the students be allowed to discipline its elected officers. This Associate Dean won the discussion, and the student court dealt a four-game suspension with probation the remainder of the yell leader's term. Most importantly, our yell leader was accepted later that year by our students and fans without further incidents.

Bakersfield College also experienced the usual sit-ins, demands, near-riots in the cafeteria and free speech issues faced by larger universities during the sixties, but the symbolic gesture by one student in front of thousands of our public did not disrupt the mission of our college in this community. Just as Mario Salvo's speeches at Berkeley helped many colleges adjust to free speech and still continue educating those who sought to learn, our young yell leader helped strengthen our ability to deal with social issues on campus with an observing public at our side. ☺

## ARCHIVE ITEMS WE NEED:

- A Freshman Dink. (Readers: Please tell us if you have any memory of the dinks.)
- A "Junior Certificate," the first graduation certificates issued.
- A Scorpion (annual) for 1922 or 1923.
- A copy of The Scrutinizer, the first Bakersfield Junior College newspaper from 1921 and 1922.
- Football programs from before 1953 or after 1986. (Danny O'Neill's collection gave us most of the programs from 1953 to 1986. A few are missing, so please check with us.)
- Programs or memorabilia from all other sports except Track and Field and Cross Country. (Bob Covey gave us his collection of those.)
- Photos of cheer/song leaders. (We want to develop a chronological record of the names and the outfits worn.)

**The 1924 Renegades football team.  
We have the roster but not the individual identification. Can anyone identify Morris Chain or other players?**



## ORIGIN OF THE NAME:

# RENEGADES

**By Jerry Ludeke**

[Recent accounts describe either the high school fans or players calling the JC team renegades, or Morris Chain calling the fans renegades, or Chain saying the team felt like renegades. The story below is based on what Morris Chain himself wrote and records from the newspapers at the time the Renegade name was given.]

Grace Bird, Dean of the Bakersfield Junior College, had it right in a 1978 interview when she said, "Morris Chain dubbed the teams 'Renegades,' and the name stuck." Chain had previously written about the name in the September 16, 1972 football program celebrating 50 years of football at B.C.: "The first Bakersfield J.C. team originated in the fall of 1922 and an economics instructor, F.L.Ryan, was our first coach....In '22 we played six games, defeating Taft J.C., Porterville High, Modesto J.C., and Santa Barbara State (twice). Our only loss was a 31-6 beating by the Fresno State varsity. I was a part-time sports writer for the Bakersfield *Morning Echo* and gave B.J.C. its nickname 'Renegades' during that '22 season. In our contest against Santa Barbara State, members of the Bakersfield High School team continually gave us razzberries and boos so when we came on the field for the second half I remarked that 'We felt like a bunch of Renegades.' In my write-up I mentioned that the team had selected the name of Bakersfield J.C. Renegades ---a nickname that has stuck throughout the years. I played left half for B.J.C. in the seasons of '22, '23, and '24."

Interestingly, Chain's memory was entangled in the legends that had developed over those 50 years. His details were not all accurate, though his basic fact that he gave the name Renegades is correct. In the September 12, 1922 *Californian*, a headline said: "Junior College To Have Own Team." It stated: "A meeting was held recently at which all of the Mullers and Spaldings that are attending Junior college were present and according to 'dope' the men

will soon organize a football squad. ... The men have secured 'Doc' Seawright...to coach them along." Fred Ryan, named by Chain as the first coach, was actually named the coach in 1923, the second season (the first season under the complete direction of the college).

In their first game, the J.C. eleven beat Taft High (not J.C.) 13-7 in an away game on October 7, 1922. The Sunday *Morning Echo* on October 8 carried the headline "Taft Meets Calamity in Local J.C. Team." In an article announcing the second game, the Saturday October 14th *Morning Echo* referred to the Bakersfield Junior College Renegades (capitalized!) three times. Although there was no by-line to the article, it is reasonable to believe that Morris Chain wrote it. The name "Renegades" continued to be used in the *Morning Echo*. On October 30 it first appeared in *The Californian*. By November 1922 it was used in headlines of both papers. As Grace Bird said, "The name stuck."

The newly-dubbed Renegades won four away games: Taft, Porterville, Modesto JC, and Santa Barbara JC. The Santa Barbara State (teacher's college) game that Morris Chain remembered was the first home game. It was not played until November 18, 1922, a month after the team had publicly assumed the name of Renegades.

Through the years, not everyone appreciated the unofficial name Renegades. By 1936 the question of changing the name was discussed in Renegade Rip articles. (See Bob Covey's article on John Boydston in this issue). The Fall Newsletter will continue the story at this point and describe the development of the Renegade Knight. ☺

**Readers: If you were a student in 1936 and 1937, please tell us your memory. Can anyone shed light on the reference to "the Mullers and Spaldings" mentioned in the 2nd paragraph above? No one by either name was listed in the roster.**

# Bywords and Byways

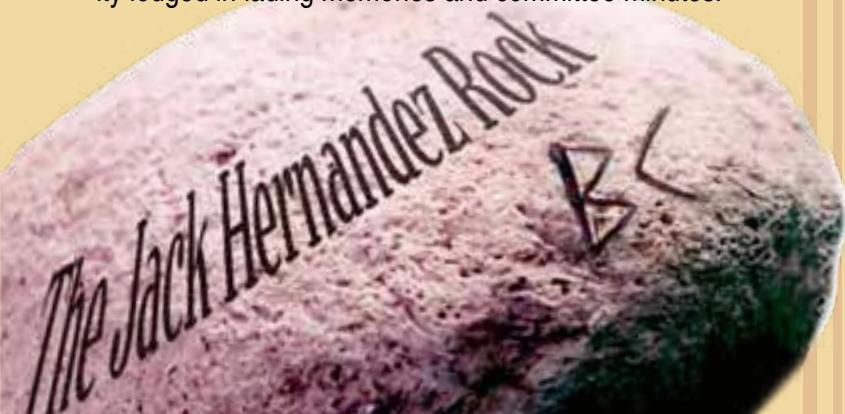
by Dr. Jack



Ah, immortality! But how to achieve it? That is the question. One way is to write like Shakespeare, paint like Picasso, and compose like Bach...or maybe drink hemlock, discover radium, or formulate  $e=mc^2$ . For most of us ordinary beings, alas, that way is no way.

But let us lift our spirits because Bakersfield College has another way: be named for a part of the college. Granted this is not eternal immortality; buildings fall and courtyards crumble. Most of us, though, will accept limited immortality over terminal mortality. So how can we go about getting a part of BC named for us? How can we become immortal in metropolitan Bakersfield?

Two ways: earn it or buy it. We earn it by making a significant contribution to the college or buy it by being a financial benefactor. The first way means that we have become, in some sense, a campus byword, a noteworthy person whose name leaps to mind when we think of, say, the cafeteria or outdoor theater or opening meetings. Like "I remember when X said Y." Unfortunately, becoming a byword falls on very few, like John Collins, perhaps BC's most well-known living byword. Naturally, we would like to be byword worthy while we can still bask in its campus glow. Most all of us, unfortunately, will simply pass out of the minds and meetings of campus folks, our BC immortality lodged in fading memories and committee minutes.



How, then, can we buy our BC immortality? There is an official price list; for example, for a mere \$25,000,000 we can have a college named after us. Presto, we become a financial benefactor. I guess Bakersfield College could, to speculate a bit, become Luigi's College; if Luigi's had the dough in this shaky economy; more likely, it would be Luigi's Cafeteria for maybe \$500,000—a pittance as these big donations go. In fact the lowest donations possible for naming are \$75,000 for a foyer and \$50,000 for a hallway, clearly the leavings for the likes of unsuccessful attorneys. The problem with this approach is that most of us, who live on pizza and cheap wine, are still excluded, buried in College Council or departmental minutes somewhere in an obscure paragraph.

Thus, for all of us ordinary folks I propose a third way. How about naming nooks, crannies, rocks, rills, and byways on the campus? The qualifications for this honor, say for faculty, would be to have always turned grades in on time and have a few spare dollars. Here is the price list:

Nook	\$25
Cranny	\$30
Rock (small to large)	\$40-\$60
Rill (dry to flowing)	\$45-\$65
Byway	\$55

And, here's the real common touch: we can put these on layaway.

So, without further rumination or ado, I'm off to search for a suitable byway; my dream of BC immortality come true...☺

# OUT OF THE PAST

at Bakersfield College

## ***Lowell Dabbs on the new BC campus:***

"I used to tell the story about McCuen's speech to the faculty on the first day we assembled on the campus. He introduced his speech by talking about the woman who was upset about the flag-pole out in front of the Administration Building.

"It must have cost a shameful lot of the taxpayers' money," she complained. "Way too much for a public school."

McCuen quoted himself as replying, 'Madam (we all loved that 'Madam'), we have a first-class country, a first-class college, and a first-class flag. And we are going to have a first-class flag-pole.' The faculty and staff approval was loud and long."

## ***Email from Jane Collins Crandall (November 24, 2009)***

The Archives Newsletter just arrived today....and was the most exciting mail I've had in a long time as I still feel so "connected" to good ol' BJC! Dean Grace Bird trusted me enough to be her secretary briefly when she first took office as the first "Female Junior College President in California" when we were on the KCUHS campus. I was also privileged later to help Edna Tabor do football tickets at the current campus when sales almost every week approached capacity of 19,000.

When we first relocated on the hill opening day was very wet and rainy, and Dr. John Collins and I hitched a ride through the mud on a pickup (running boards) from where we had to park that morning.

Of course no one remembers, I'm sure, but when I attended there, I was the editor of the Renegade Rip under Peg Levinson's supervision, and Jack - "Jax" as he called himself at that time - was my Sports Editor, so I really enjoyed reading the article about him. [Jack Smith, Fall 2008 Archives Newsletter] I also did the Raconteur in 1938 I think it was.

## ***Kathy Rosellini remembers a prank at BC:***

"There's a story that was passed on to me and other women residents who lived in the BC dorms in 1971. I do not know if this happened for sure, and it would be interesting to see if others could confirm that this actually happened!

In October, 1962, when we were in the midst of the Cuban Missile Crisis, the women residents decided to play a "mean" prank on the men residents. To take advantage of the tense times (the fact we were on the brink of possibly going to a nuclear war with the Soviet Union) the women called the front desk of the men's dorm and told the male student who answered the phone that the country was going to war and men were being 'drafted' immediately. All men dorm residents were instructed to pack one bag and assemble outside the men's dorm to board a bus that would take them to the nearest recruiting station. Supposedly the men dutifully did what they were told and stayed lined up for quite sometime before they realized they had been 'had' by the women dorm students."

## ***Quote of Olin Kirkland in 1979-80 BC Catalog:***

"In the future a literate person will need to have some experience with the computer...,it will be a basic tool."

The catalog goes on to say: "Kirkland doesn't see computers taking over the world in the near future., but he does admit there have been interesting advancements, including computers that understand vibrations and inflections of the voice, and some that talk with a sort of human sound."

***Newsletter Readers: If you have an interesting memory or funny story about BC, email to: [bearchives@bakersfieldcollege.edu](mailto:bearchives@bakersfieldcollege.edu) , or mail to:***

***Newsletter Editor, BC Archives Association,  
1801 Panorama Drive.  
Bakersfield, CA 93305***

## Can You Name These People?

In 1959 The Renegades won the Junior Rosebowl. Number 41, Joe Hernandez, was the Rue Pollock winner and top pass receiver. Claudean Moreland was homecoming queen. Was she also head cheer leader or song leader? Who are the two men playing the herald trumpets?



### Mystery Photo From the last Newsletter

You readers identified these Renegades as #80 Larry Austin, Marcia Livesay, Claudean Moreland, #61 Bill Musick, Sue LeMaster, and #84 Vern Burke. Thank you!

## Come See the Archives

The BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE ARCHIVES has photos and memorabilia on display and a wealth of fascinating old documents on BC's history. We are located on the 2nd floor of the new Grace Van Dyke Bird Library.

**Acting Director:** Jerry Ludeke  
**Archives Assistant:** Rosalee Pogue  
Email: [bcarchives@bakersfieldcollege.edu](mailto:bcarchives@bakersfieldcollege.edu)  
Phone: 661-395-4949

### HOURS FOR FALL SEMESTER 2009

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday  
8:30 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.

Other hours available by appointment



Tasha Chavez, student, admires the showcase outside the Archives. It features the yell leader's sweater that Judge Jon Stuebbe wore in 1967 and two batons used by Barbara (Wallace) Leask-Lingo in 1943-45. Photo by John Green

## BC PEOPLE WE WILL MISS

**David Arthur**, a philosophy professor at BC for 16 years, loved music, teaching and life. He will be missed by his many students and friends. David's wife is also a professor of philosophy and member of the BC faculty.

**Marian (Axford) Shea:** During her many years as an English Professor at Bakersfield College, Marian was known as a very gracious and caring lady. After she retired she moved to Tempe, Arizona, got married for the first time, and spent the rest of her life in Tempe.

**Caroline Close:** Following her retirement from the Kern High School District, she taught English as a Second Language at BC for ten years and tutored elementary students until 2007. For 47 years, she inspired three generations of students by sharing with them the joy of the written word and inspiring them to write and think clearly. Caroline was a pioneer in bringing English as a Second Language and Minority Literature to Kern County.

**Richard Kelley** was the Radio Production Technician/Advisor for Bakersfield College's KBCC-FM station for many years until his retirement in 1991. He was a broadcasting professional who helped transform KBCC-FM from a student station playing recorded music into one that broadcast news, events, concerts, commercials, educational programming and ethnic music.

**Kay Miller** was a secretary in administration for 27 years. While working in the Admissions and Records Office at a time when over 3,000 veterans were enrolled, Kay was the go-to person for many vets returning from Viet Nam and attending BC on the GI Bill. She maintained a welcoming and helpful attitude throughout her career and retired in 1983 as the longtime Senior Secretary to Bill Heffernan, Dean of Education.

**Juanita Watson** was a key employee in BC's Food Services Department for 20 years and retired as Food Services Manager at "The Huddle."



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