



The Bakersfield College Archives Newsletter

November 2010

Volume 9, Issue 2

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GIL BISHOP

**B.C. Director of Athletics, 1954 to 1968
Track & Field Meet Director
And Announcer Extraordinaire**

By Bob Covey

(Note: Condensed From Original by Don Stansbury)

Gil Bishop, Director of Athletics at Bakersfield College for fifteen years from 1953 to 1968, was instrumental in hiring much of the physical education and athletics staff that made Bakersfield College so successful in its first three decades on the new campus. He was outstanding in everything he did. Born on December 27, 1913 in San Jose and raised on a farm in Shandon some twenty miles east of Paso Robles, he attended Paso Robles High School and was active and curious as a boy. He was a good student as well as an athlete; he learned to play the piano, organ, trumpet, and accordion. As an adult he wrote some fifty songs, recorded his favorites and played them by recording at his own funeral. At Paso Robles High he played football, basketball, and baseball so well he was encouraged play the sports at San Jose State.

After graduation from San Jose State, Bishop taught full-time at Placer Junior College in Auburn (now Sierra Community College) as head coach for basketball and track, and backfield coach in football. When he left Auburn JC for East High School in 1942, his basketball team had amassed an outstanding record. Soon after the start of World War II, Bishop went to East Bakersfield High School as head basketball and assistant football coach, but he left in 1943 for service in the U.S. Navy. He returned to East Bakersfield High School in 1946 as Athletic Director, Head Basketball Coach, Head Track Coach, and, for a short time, "B" football coach.

Ed Simonsen, who was Bakersfield Junior College's Athletic Director at that time, asked Bishop to announce Renegades home football games at Bakersfield High School's Griffith Field. Bishop took 16 mm films of the Renegades in 1950 and was written up in the Renegade Rip as providing football coach Jack Frost with an excellent coaching aid. Simonsen asked Gil in 1953 to come to Bakersfield College as the basketball coach, where he became an active participant on the State Athletic Committee that supervised Junior College athletics. When JCs became Community Colleges in



Gil Bishop, right, congratulates Coach "Jack" Frost on the occasion of Jack's retirement

1968, he became the first president of the State Community College Coaches Association and upon his retirement was inducted into the U.S. Athletic Directors Hall of Fame.

While at BC Bishop was instrumental in hiring such outstanding faculty as Ken Fahsbender, Sybil Hylton, Sandy Bowers, Marlene Blunt, Jim Turner, Ray Newman, Herb Loken, Gerry Collis, Bob Covey, Bruce Pfitzenreuter, Harvel Pollard, Walt Johnson, Norm Hoffman, Pete Nestande, Jim Nau, Bill Nelson, Hank Pfister, Rex Grossart, Duane Damron, Ray Scott, Jack Keithley, Bill Finch, Vick Lindskog, and other outstanding faculty.

In 1958 Bishop became announcer of the Men's National AAU Track & Field Championships at Memorial Stadium. He continued as announcer for every major high school, community college, national and international track and field meet in the stadium for the next two decades. He went on to announce the 1968 Olympic Trials in South Lake Tahoe, the 1981 National Sports Festival in Syracuse, and the same meet in Indianapolis in 1982. He announced at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games and took along Les Carpenter, Herman Riese, and Bob Covey as officials.

See **BISHOP**, page 2

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BISHOP continued

For twenty years he served as a member of the U.S.A. Olympic Committee and was asked with "Cap" Haralson to accompany a number of national teams to Europe and Asia. His crowning assignment came in 1976 as Assistant Team Manager for the U.S.A. Olympic Team in Montreal.

Simonsen and Bishop retired in 1978, but Bishop continued on with an office at the District to help educators and their wives plan their retirement. He became the local retirement expert and became famous for his quick understanding of all retirement laws and policies. He gave advice to other school district employees, some as far away as Santa Barbara, continuing in that position until he retired in 2000. He completed twenty-seven years of that service to thousands of educators.

Gil Bishop passed away on April 17, 2002. He had been the first full-time Director of Athletics for Bakersfield College. In addition he was the first president of the State Community College Coaches Association, a twenty-year member of the U.S. Olympic Committee, as well as Assistant Manager of the 1976 U.S.A. Olympic Track & Field Team. He was inducted into the National Collegiate Athletic Directors Hall of Fame, the California Track & Field Hall of Fame, the Bob Elias Kern County Hall of Fame, and the Bakersfield College Track & Field Hall of Fame. On January 12, 1996 he was honored with the renaming of the Bakersfield College Gymnasium as the "Gil Bishop Sports Center."•

Editor's Note: This is a condensed version of an article by Bob Covey which will appear on the Archives website. The original should be read in its entirety to appreciate the significance of Gil Bishop's contributions to Bakersfield College and his quality as a human being.

THE SPIRIT OF BC



Herb Loken

I came to BC in the fall of '56 as the Director of Gymnastics. Gymnastics had never been offered as a class or as a college team in the past. I was thrilled with the position and was asked if I would be interested in being the advisor for the Rally Squad. Having been a gymnast and a cheerleader in high school and at the University of Minnesota, I saw it as a bonus for me, so I quickly accepted. What better way to become acquainted with the student body than through the enthusiastic members of the Rally Squad.

All the staff members were eager to make the move to the new campus a great success and what better way than to become involved with the students in the ASB offerings. In my mind I had picked off the cream of the crop with my highly motivated young men and women. Those were the days when we would hold "pep rallies" in the campus center during the week, and before away football games the squad and members of the pep band would send the team off with another rally. Of course, those were the days when our town would follow with three to four thousand fans at away games. It was my responsibility to see that the Rally Squad attended those games. What a spirited group that was to travel with!

Long Beach Community College was always a crucial game, and in the early years we sat on one side of the stadium where seating totaled six thousand spectators. Until they put up a chain link fence between the home and visitor sections it was just open seating with half the stadium indicated for BC. This was a rather explosive situation, and at one particular game with an overflow crowd I was quite concerned. I turned to Dr. Collins, Dean of Students, who was standing with me on the sidelines, and I said, "I sure hope we won't have any problems tonight." I will never forget his reply, "Don't worry, if something happens, I will be RIGHT BEHIND YOU!" I recall a favorite chant challenge at our home football games when we would call across the field to the visitor's section, "WE'VE GOT SPIRIT..HOW ABOUT YOU?" That would go on forever. Yes, SPIRIT we had!



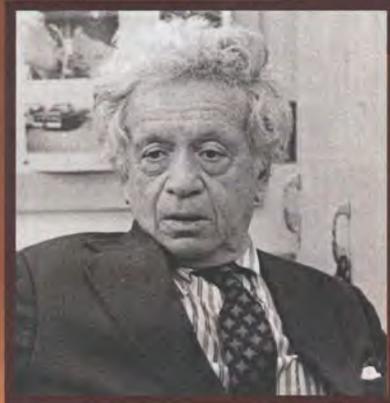
Herb Loken, left, hands trophies to two athletes.
(Can anyone identify the athletes for us?)

I also had the pleasure of being the advisor for the Renegade Knights, which was another spirit group (there's that word again) of young men providing many services on campus and in the city. Our team doctor, Dr. Romain Clerou, was a very popular figure in town, and we decided to copy his style of wearing berets! We ordered several hundred red berets and sold them at home games making thousands of dollars which was donated to Mckinley School for medical equipment.

In those days a football ticket in the student section was a prized possession. Besides that, it was required that you wear red & white in that section. This was brought about through the capable leadership of the Director of Student Activities, Vic Ste Marie. Anyone without the proper colors but with a ticket, we had red & white pom-poms to rent for the game...pretty clever! One time an elderly gentleman came with a ticket, probably from his grandson, and when informed of the rule, without any hesitation he paid the price and in the game he went.

In time I was fortunate to be advanced to P.E. Department Chairman and finally for 16 years as the Athletic Director of the finest staff of men and women in the State of California,

All these steps seemed to me like I was back leading cheers once again. What a thrill! ☺



GHOST VOICES FROM THE PAST

Max Lerner, Journalist And Social Critic Visits BC

by Don Stansbury, Newsletter Editor
(From 1976 Raconteur)

Speaking to BC students and faculty in 1976, noted Columnist-critic-author Max Lerner, according to the BC Raconteur '76, "left his audiences with a number of provocative thoughts: 'Is America a dying civilization? Is it unaware of forces in the world—a sleepwalker? Women's Lib is healthy. There is a loss of confidence in leadership. Is it possible for us to cope with our problems?'"

Maxwell "Max" Alan Lerner, a controversial figure throughout his life, emigrated from Russia with his parents in 1907 and spent his adolescent years in New Haven, Connecticut. He later attended Yale University where he studied literature and law and graduated with a B.A. in 1923. He went on to earn a doctorate from the Brookings Institution in 1927 and worked in the late twenties and the early 1930s as an editor for the Encyclopaedia of the Social Sciences. During this time he became a socialist and political liberal and supporter of FDR's New Deal. He wrote articles for newspapers and many magazines, first The Nation and P.M. from 1936 to 1948, and then the New York Post as regular columnist in 1949. For the Post he wrote over 6000 columns and became widely syndicated as a political columnist for such magazines as the New Republic and Time. America as a Civilization (1957), is considered his best book.

Over his career he wrote over eight thousand columns; fourteen books, gave lectures, taught at Sarah Lawrence College, Harvard University, Williams College, United States International University, and Brandeis University. Throughout his early years he was considered a liberal and social

critic but later developed a reputation as a neo-conservative. One reviewer, Tevi Troy of the Weekly Standard, said: "[Lerner's] evolution from liberalism to something close to conservatism made him a heretic among liberals, but it came too late to make him a hero among conservatives." By the 1980s, he had embraced much of Reaganism: he condemned the bitter campaign against Supreme Court nominee Robert Bork, endorsed support for the Contras, and denounced prior concessions in negotiations with the Soviets. At the time of his BC visit Lerner had begun his descent into relative obscurity, but he was still a provocative figure. Though little known today, he was quoted extensively during his lifetime. The best quotes show his acerbic wit and keen social eye.

"A politician wouldn't dream of being allowed to call a columnist the things a columnist is allowed to call a politician."

"Next to the striking of fire and the discovery of the wheel, the greatest triumph of what we call civilization was the domestication of the human male."

"A President is best judged by the enemies he makes when he has really hit his stride."

"The problem of freedom in America is that of maintaining a competition of ideas, and you do not achieve that by silencing one brand of idea."

Max Lerner died June 5, 1992. ☞

Interesting Acquisitions

The Archives has received over 100 donations already this year. We highlight three below and always welcome more.



Paula Bray in M&O sent a program and a poster from the 1979 USA-USSR track meet.



The original Clayton Rippey mock-up for the 1958 Renegade pylon was presented to Jerry Ludeke, Archives Director, by Eric Carrillo on behalf of himself and Debby Moberg of the Graphics Center. Eric is the graphic designer of our Newsletters.



Herb Walker donated a helmet signed by members of the 1955 Renegades, the first team to play in Memorial Stadium.

Adelaide

Schafer

By Bob Covey

Adelaide Schafer was hired to teach German at Bakersfield Junior College in 1938. She left her BJC teaching position in 1943 to join the WASP, Women's Airforce Service Pilots. These women were the first in history trained to fly military planes. It was not desired by our government to have women in combat, but during World War II, more qualified people were needed. Male fighter pilot schools needed planes to train their men for war and the WASP was organized to fly various fighter planes from one airbase to another. Adele wanted to serve and her only handicap was her height. She trained and flew planes sitting on a pillow so she could see out of the cockpit. She said (as reported in a 1974 Raconteur), "I applied for the program because I didn't want a desk job, and I did want to learn to fly. My father was appalled; he thought it was very unladylike."

The Renegade Rip in April of 1946 published a letter written by Infantryman Harry Francisco crediting Miss Schafer, his BC German language teacher, with the capture of 12 Nazi infantrymen. Harry, without a rifle in hand, shouted orders in German for them to give up and they did. "They'd have shot me if I hadn't been quick with the lip---so maybe I learned something in school after all. But we'll credit Miss Schafer with the capture." With the war over, in 1946 she returned to Bakersfield Junior College and returned to her first love, teaching students. She rented a small apartment on "A" Street for \$45.00 a month. It was small and over a garage but suited her fine. It was just a few blocks and a short walk to the Bakersfield High



School campus and her classroom in the JC Building. The 1947 Raconteur was dedicated "To Miss Adelaide Schafer, who generously gave time, effort and inspiration to her numerous clubs, classes, and activities" She taught German for over forty years, retired, and continued to volunteer as a tutor. She ultimately worked as a teacher/tutor at Bakersfield Junior College and Bakersfield College for fifty-two years, all the time living in that same apartment on "A" Street. Her landlady never raised her rent from the \$45.00 a month in fear of losing such a good renter.

Adele was a marvelous teacher and friend to everyone who wanted to know her. She had a habit of inviting new faculty members to dinner at her small apartment on "A" Street. My invitation came in the fall of my first year on campus, 1963, and she served fondue to me and Professor Paul Gordon. She also sometimes recognized what faculty person might need a loan. She would come into an office, close the door, and start to talk about all this money she had and, "by the way, do you need a loan?"

The Language Arts Building at Bakersfield College, where Schafer taught her classes from the day the building was completed in 1968 until she officially retired in 1978 was renamed "Schafer Hall" in 1988 while she was still tutoring students there as a volunteer. ☞

QUOTES FROM THE PAST

William "Bill" Nielsen:

Bill Nielsen came to BC in 1948 to teach mathematics and retired in 1983. He is quoted in the 1976 Raconteur:

"When BC was moved up on the hill it was only a big rock pile. There were no trees or grass for what seemed like miles and an awful lot of dirt clods. Not the most attractive campus in the state but look what it has developed into."

"I didn't want to stay any longer than necessary in this 'terrible' Bakersfield. That's what I had planned on then, but 28 years later here I am, and I love it here."

Georgene Bihlman:

Miss Bihlman was a dedicated P.E. teacher at BC for 44 years. She retired in 1991 and died in March 2010. See the biographical article in May 2010, Archives Newsletter, p. 2. *Title Nine of the Educational Amendments Act of 1972 banned sex discrimination in schools, whether in academics or athletics. It effectively gave women student athletes equality with men student athletes in financing athletic programs.*

"From 1920 (when women first earned the right to vote) it has taken until 1975 [after Title Nine in 1972] to become more than second class citizens... The future looks brighter for BC."

The Bakersfield College ESL Program

A First For B.C.

By Caroline Corser with Judy Garrett

Back in 1976, as I was teaching special sections of English 60 and 50 for bilingual Mexican Americans, more and more foreign students registered for my classes. Many of them needed help not only with writing, but also with speaking English. At that time, there were no classes at B.C. specifically for foreign-born students, so I kept referring them to Judy Garrett, the Handicapped Services Department Speech Therapist. She found out about a California state education grant that was available for curriculum improvements, and we decided to apply for money to set up an English as a Second Language (ESL) program. Our research showed that we had students from many different countries, especially from Vietnam and Laos, some of whom were living in our campus dorms. A faculty poll also showed that most of those students were not proficient enough in English to meet academic standards for graduation or university transfer.

Our grant application paid off, and we were awarded funds to set up an ESL program. That's when the fun began. Margaret Lyman asked to join our efforts, and the three of us planned our strategies. We visited a number of community colleges that had ESL programs and learned from their experiences.

We knew that foreign-language learners are not necessarily proficient at the same level in all four language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. So we spent many hours devising a placement test that would determine their abilities in all those skills and met with Raj Doshi in the Computer Center at the District Office to create a program that would place students in the appropriate levels of listening-speaking, reading, and writing ESL courses. He performed his magic and came up with a data base for entering the students' test results and prescribing their placements. We later found that the system worked amazingly well. That also meant that we must create course outlines for each of the new ESL courses that students would be placed in, which we did. Judy would teach Listening/Speaking and Reading classes, and I would cover the composition classes.

As we progressed in our planning, we realized that foreign-born students needed a place to go for support and advice. I had been designated as Foreign Student Advisor, and I also needed an office where I could meet with students. When we presented our problem to President John Collins, he told us we could use one of the two language listening labs on the ground floor of the Language Arts Building for a Foreign Student Center. Chuck Palmgren, Maintenance and Operations Director, created a floor plan for us that included an office, a small testing room, and a lounge and reception area. After scrounging furniture from storage rooms around campus, we had everything we needed to start operations.

That following Fall the Counseling Center directed all students with limited English skills to our Center, and we tested and placed them in the proper courses. We also established skill requirements for exit from each level of the classes, so that when the students had progressed through our program, they would be proficient enough to succeed in other departments.



Caroline Corser and Judy Garrett (left to right)



International Students fashion show, 1994



ESL students in their classroom

Faculty in the English Department were soon telling us how much easier it was to teach foreign students who came to them with adequate writing skills.

As our program grew, we moved the Center to a large classroom on the second floor, and Sheri Rahman eventually became the counselor for the foreign students. Our program also became affiliated with the Foreign Language Department, and later we were able to give credit for certain ESL courses to meet the General Education foreign language requirement. The premise was that for students whose first language was not English, they were studying a foreign language, just as American students learned Spanish, French, or German.

During those times when the nation was going through many changes, we were gratified to create a program that benefited the foreign-born students at B.C. ☺

The Bakersfield College Senior Adult Program

By Charles R. Carlson, PhD

Here's a little history about BC that many really do not know. When I came to BC in 1971 as Assistant Dean for Evening Division (we had a day Division and a night Division at that time) I was working on a PhD. at USC in Higher Education and Gerontology. I received the degree in 1972 including a dissertation that caused much comment and interest. The dissertation was on the topic of whether senior adults could really 'learn' or not. Most people believed that 'you can't teach an old dog new tricks'. It was the first such dissertation study in the United States.

My studies and research were coordinated with the CCC Continuing Education Association and the AARP. The results indicated that seniors could indeed learn and that they would benefit from educational programs at colleges and universities. This caused much interest at the CA Commission on Aging and the CCC Board of Governors. If this was true, then much thought was required about what to do about it. What did it mean if seniors could still learn and be kept engaged in society through learning?

The Commission on Aging (CA Dept of Aging) then asked me and BC to accept a grant to validate the findings of my research. We did that (thank you Dr. Collins), and by 1975 we had a significant Senior Adult educational program in operation and offered classes throughout greater Bakersfield. We presented a number of workshops for other community colleges throughout the state so they could establish their own programs.



The Department of Aging also then asked us to accept a grant to establish the Senior Adult Information and Referral Program for Kern County. We did that too and developed that outreach program and finally turned it over to the Kern County Department of Aging in the mid 80s.

The AARP, CA Department of Aging, CCC Board of Governors and the American Society on Aging (ASA) all got excited about colleges providing classes for seniors. The AARP and the ASA promoted workshops throughout the United States to interest colleges and universities in providing educational programs for seniors. (I was fortunate to be able to travel to many areas throughout the US.) The Board of Governors also then authorized the offering of senior classes throughout California with state funding.

Today, with some limitations because of the financial crisis, senior programs are offered at community colleges and universities throughout the United States.

In case anyone is interested, you can tell them it all started at BC. 🐾

MYSTERY ? PHOTO

Can you help identify these students? What is their project? What is the date and location? The photo may be from the 1950's when the college was at BHS.



REMEMBERING HULON WILLIS

By Nancy Edwards, PhD
Professor of English Emerita

Events moved rapidly after my first interview with incoming President Burns Finlinson at the college Placement Center at San Jose State University in the early spring of 1968. I eagerly accepted his kind invitation to come to Bakersfield College for an interview for a faculty position.

I met the college's top administrators and the English Department chairman, Dr. Hulon Willis, a nationally recognized authority on the use of the English language. A teacher as well as a scholar, he had written a number of textbooks and held many degrees, including a PhD from UCLA.

Having just received my Master's degree in English, I was new to teaching and honored to be selected to teach at BC. Hulon made a special effort to help me feel I was a part of the BC family. Once when Hulon and his wife, Muriel, went to Las Vegas where my family lived, Hulon asked me for my parents' telephone number. Later my mother called me to say that he had called to say hello and that I was doing fine in my new position teaching at BC. I was touched by his genteel spirit.

My passion for teaching had ignited during Hulon's era. As my seventh year of teaching approached, I wanted to take a sabbatical to begin a doctorate program, but I did not know how Hulon would react to my proposal.

About a week after I went to his office to talk with him privately about applying, Hulon walked by me in the hall and he was beaming. He told me that he had written a letter of reference for me and he said, "I told them they would be lucky to have you." I was thrilled to have his approval!

After I was accepted at Claremont Graduate University, Hulon called me aside informally and offered to lend me some money to help with my graduate school expenses at the private university. While I could not accept his offer, I was again touched by how thoughtful and kind he was. I began my new life as a graduate student at Claremont in the fall of 1975 with a full load of classes. I missed my friends here and stayed in close touch. In early December, the terrible call came that Hulon was ill in the hospital here. He had always seemed robust and healthy, so we had expected a full recovery.



Within a few short days, he died. It was a terrible shock to everyone. He was only 53 and in the prime of his career.

When I came back to campus for his memorial service at the Fireside Room on Monday, December 5, 1975, the sadness was palpable. His friends and colleagues spoke of his accomplishments and read literary passages that he loved. The "senior" faculty all looked so professional and spoke with such poise, I know Hulon would have been proud of them. Many of the people in the room that day went on later to chair the department. The talent that Hulon Willis had nurtured and encouraged blossomed over decades of service to the students and community. With the great Dr. John Collins as President, some people continue to call that 1975-85 era, the Golden Era at BC.

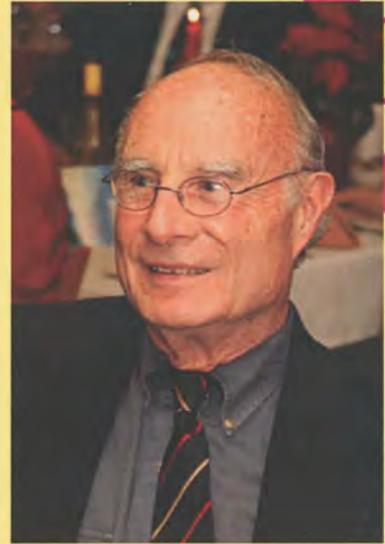
Hulon Willis was a remarkable person who had a highly significant impact on me, as well as countless others at Bakersfield College and beyond. He made it possible for me to fulfill my dream. In the 1976 BC yearbook, someone said of Hulon, "As a scholar, he was without peer; as a person, he was a rare blend of teacher, administrator, and friend. Simply and specifically, Hulon Willis was a strong and caring man. We are enriched from having known him." 🍷

ARCHIVE ITEMS WE NEED:

- BHS Oracles 1913 thru 1927, 1930
- Reneguides: 1938-47, 1952-54, 1968, 1995-96, any after 1997
- BC Catalogues: 1928-31, 1935-36, 1943-45
- BC Class Schedules: any before 1990
- Honor Brunch Programs: 1957-61, 1966-67, 1969, 1973-75, 1993, 1996, 2000, 2004
- Commencement Programs: 1915 thru 1926, 1928 thru 1932, 1977
- Another Freshman Dink

FEELIN' GROOVY

by Jack Hernandez



I haven't felt groovy for a long time. A very long time. Decades, in fact. I mean it's been so long I'm not sure I even remember how to feel groovy. Let alone be groovy. Is this forgetfulness a shortcoming? A DNA defect? No, just the recognition that we in academia pick up and shed the lingo associated with eras we've lived through. Sometimes, though, like lint, some stays with us...

In the middle and late 60s, BC was very groovy—grooviness was all. Well, not exactly all because "groovy" had to share linguistic space with "peace," "love," "rap," and "man"; as in, "Groovy, let's rap about peace and love, man." People on campus then actually spoke like that, because to show our students we were hip and with it, we had to master the language of being groovy, of rapping and such. A colleague who said "swell," as in "That's so swell," was regarded as so, like, square, a regular 50s leftover, with, no doubt, short or coiffed hair, and pressed and tailored clothes. I admit being jealous of friends who seemed naturally groovy, twenty-four seven, and rapped rapturously as born to it. Clothed in love beads and peace medallions, we all experienced the unbearable lightness of being groovy.

But linguistic fashions, and the cultural realities they reflect, change; and we, to avoid being strangers in a strange land have to change, as well. To be a cool campus player today, we must master tech talk: Twitter, tweets, texting, friending and unfriending, tagging, uploading and downloading, gigs, and Apps. We don't rap, we text, as in "OMG how RU?" And this reflects a different social scene, a different way of communicating: rapping was in person with the sense of an excited, smoky dialogue; whereas texting, despite its perky spelling, seems at an antiseptic distance.

Being square, now at BC, is to blather on about peace and love, rather than about friending someone on your Facebook page. Sit ins and love ins filled conversation in the 60s; today it's all about smart phones and Apps. To be App happy. To have a voracious appetite for Apps, lots and lots of Apps. Game Apps, food Apps, romance Apps, breakup Apps, travel Apps, pet Apps, map Apps, music Apps, abs Apps, Botox Apps, Viagra Apps, meditation Apps, and so on into the infinity of Apps. Is this wondrous, fingertip access to cyber reality groovy? Maybe it is. Certainly it's "cool," the one 60s word to survive cultural and linguistic comings and goings on campus. But not as in "That's so cool, dude" because "dude" is so done. I mean, like, totally.

1966, and Simon and Garfunkel gave us this song:

*Slow down you move too fast
You got to make the morning last
Just kicking down the cobble stones
Looking for fun and feelin' groovy...*

Right on... ☞

May 2010 Retirement Reception Greg Goodwin



Pictured from left to right (all photos): Duane Damron, Walt Johnson, becki whitson, Charlotte Cox, Orelie Clark, Jerry Ludeke, Rita Ortega,

from our READERS

From Justo Corona, Class of '63

Hi, what a great job you are doing with the newsletter! It seems to be getting better and better with every issue. I certainly enjoy going back in time with all your articles about some of my former instructors or people of interest.

I do have a correction for your "Mystery ? Photo" in the latest issue. The Renegade football player pictured with the two unknown mascots is Chuck Widel from Philadelphia, Pa, not Dan Costello. You will find this same picture in the football section of the 1963 *Raconteur* and if you look at the team picture I'm the team manager pictured in the third row up and on the left side. How about that!



Keep up the good work.

Notes in response to Ray Gonzales' article "Consciousness Raised in 1969":

Oliver Rosales, BC alum and currently a PhD candidate in the History Department at UC, Santa Barbara:

In an effort to be entirely accurate, I'll amend what I said in my previous email noting that it was actually UMS, or the United Mexican Students of Bakersfield College that would have sponsored Ray's proposal for

minority hiring in 1969. I don't mean to belabor the nomenclature, but these were actually very serious issues for students at the time, and Chicana/o historians have written numerous books, articles, and dissertations about the politics of naming during this era.

Both UMAS and UMS were manifestations of either the United Mexican American Students or United Mexican Students which were popular student organizations throughout California colleges, as well as in Texas and other southwest schools, I believe. Most Mexican American student organizations, however, after 1969 changed their name to the more Chicano student activist organizational name of MECHA, or Movimiento Estudiantil [Movimiento Estudiantil] Chicano de Aztlan. A student and leadership conference was held at UC Santa Barbara in late 1969 and the MECHA platform was born and spread across colleges and universities. In 1972, UMS organized a statewide conference where UMS officially changed their name to MECHA.

Note from the Archives:

In his article, Ray Gonzales referred to "the three of us who had been the only minorities among the faculty in the three years I had taught (1965-1969)." Ray was referring to himself, Pat Lee in the Math Department, and Willye Pearl Mdoana in the Home Ec Department. Other faculty members who could be called minority members at that time were Rose Marie Diaz in nursing, Jack Hernandez in philosophy, Richard Ruiz in art, Helena Salaverria in Spanish, Grace Tanaka Sonner in Home Economics, and David Covin in Social Studies.

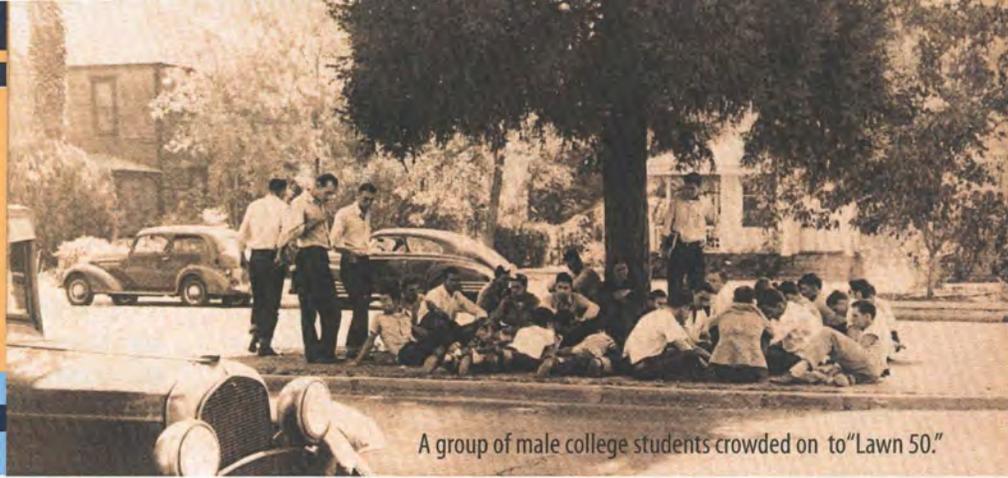
The statement "The Holloway Library bears his name" should have read "The Holloway-Gonzales Library bears his name."

The BC Retirement Reception last spring was a great success. Since 2008 the Archives has partnered with BC's Foundation and President's offices to revitalize this event. The reception will be a first-class event with piano music, delicious refreshments prepared by food service, and the opportunity to visit with old friends and make new ones. COME ON OUT to this outstanding event on May 5, 2011. ☺



Ken Fahsbender, Ron McMasters, Don Stansbury, Greg Goodwin, Susan Pinza, Rick Wright, Sandra Serrano, Greg Chamberlain

Lawn 50 at the Bakersfield High School Campus



A group of male college students crowded on to "Lawn 50."

Does any reader remember LAWN 50? On a Bakersfield College Campus map when the college shared the high school campus, there is a rectangle with the label LAWN 50. It is actually the median strip on California Avenue between F and G Streets, between the east and west bound lanes, half way across the street from the Junior College Building.

The 1947 Student Handbook has a section To Joe Frosh which includes this notation about Lawn 50: "The only course that has plenty of fresh air, good jokes, and no finals. Beware of this intriguing plot of grass. (For men only.)"

It is Sam Wallace, in his book entitled Recollections of a High School District, who sheds light on the meaning of Lawn 50. "It must be remembered that Bakersfield College in those days was located on the same campus as Bakersfield High

School and this in itself posed problems because of the mix of mature servicemen and high school age students, some as young as fourteen or fifteen years of age. High on the list of problems that the new Dean [Ed Simonsen] was supposed to resolve was that of the smoking restrictions placed on the junior college students, so that 'when the smoking lamp was lit,' they would not be mixed with the high school students. College students were expected to use the parkway area on California Avenue for smoking, keeping themselves separated from the high school students for this activity." The result is shown in this 1949 Raconteur picture of the crowd of men on the narrow median strip dubbed Lawn 50. The picture is taken from the Junior College Building looking south across California Avenue. 🐾

DINKS

Joe Fontaine, BC 1951-53, rediscovered his freshman DINK and donated it, so now we know that a dink was a maroon wool felt beanie with a white felt button on the top and a small white felt bill. (Maroon and white were the school colors at that time.) The 1937-38 Student Handbook says: "Thou shalt wear thy Dink Hat at all times while on the campus and most emphatically at all games." When freshmen registered (both men and women), they bought the required dinks and mild hazing by sophomores was allowed for one week only. The photo on the right is from the 1951 Raconteur. (Joe's Dink is in fragile shape so we would also welcome a second one.) 🐾

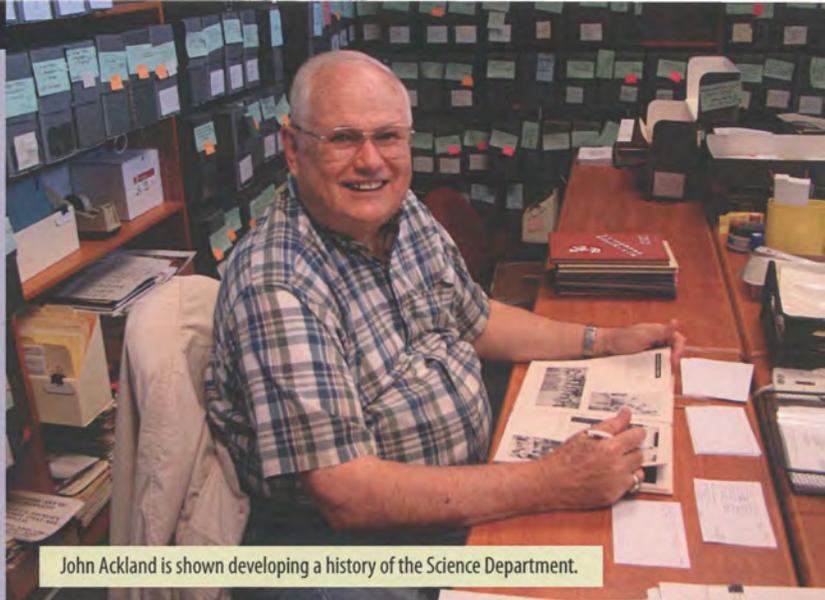


Freshmen were required to wear "dinks" at registration and to wear them during the first week of school to develop their school spirit and to identify them to sophomores who wanted help in carrying their books

The Archives Needs Volunteers!

We have MANY volunteer opportunities. These are just a few. Call us at 395-4949 or send us an email at bcarchives@bakersfieldcollege.edu. We will arrange for a time that is convenient for you and see that you get a parking permit.

- Identify photos. We have nine 4-inch thick binders with photos that need identification. They are in sheets which are easy to handle and are partly organized by interest area.
- Conduct Oral interviews. We have a list of people we would like interviewed. It is great fun to talk over old BC days as you are recording them. (You can tape your own BC memories while you are at it.)
- Input data onto the computer. Arrangements can be made to work at the Archives any day or hour. (This is in preparation for putting the Archives schema on the developing website.)



John Ackland is shown developing a history of the Science Department.

- Transcribe oral interviews. This is a humongous job that only a few people are trained to do. We really want to get these interviews into the printed word.
- Help organize and reorganize our files. Some of this is best done by those who have been around BC for many years and recognize names in print and faces in photos.
- Make lists. These are great fun to do if you like thumbing through old yearbooks and doing research. We want lists of outside speakers and performers on campus, alumni activities, faculty wives programs, active clubs through the years, BC history by events, Trustee members, etc. If you have a favorite topic, you can pursue that.



Davy (Davelle Bridge) Smith and Bill Smith, both dormies who graduated in 1973, came to campus to buy football tickets. They toured Levinson Hall, the dorm where Davy lived, which now houses Maintenance and Operations and Human Resources, and they ended up enjoying photos from a dorm scrapbook on the Archives computer.

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.

Director: Jerry Ludeke
Office Manager: Rosalee Pogue
Email: bcarchives@bakersfieldcollege.edu
Phone: 661-395-4949

HOURS FOR FALL 2010

Tues, Wed and Thurs
8:30 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.

Other hours available by appointment



Bakersfield College
Archives Association
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BC PEOPLE WE WILL MISS

Gretchen Briggs was hired at Bakersfield College in 1960 as a computer operator. She later moved to the Kern Community College District Office when the Data Processing Department was moved there. Gretchen remained as a computer operator throughout her career and retired from the District in 1989.

Mildred (Mij) Colvin was hired in 1983 as a tutor in the Learning Center and became one of BC's valued and respected adjunct faculty members. Many students who found their way to the Learning Center benefited greatly from Mij's love for teaching. She retired in 2003.

Leonard King was a BC grounds man in the Maintenance and Operations Department. His career in landscaping spanned 30 years, first at College of the Sequoias and later at Bakersfield College.

Arvilla Longacre was a BC Professor of Nursing from 1969 until her retirement in 1984. Her daughter, Amy Liu, wrote that her mother loved her time at BC and her relationships with students and other staff.

David Ramirez served as a BC custodian in the Maintenance and Operations Department for 19 years and retired as lead custodian in 2009. All who knew David thought well of him and appreciated his fine work ethic.

Anna (Sue) Scoggins came to BC in 1955 and served as Administrative Secretary to Parley Kilburn, Dean of Evening Division, and to President John Collins. Sue was among the small number of secretaries who helped as BC moved to its present location from the high school campus. After 32 years of service, she retired in 1987 as Director of Admissions and Records.

Readers Please Note: Send information about former BC people to Charlotte Cox at ccox@bak.rr.com