THE RENEGADE RIP

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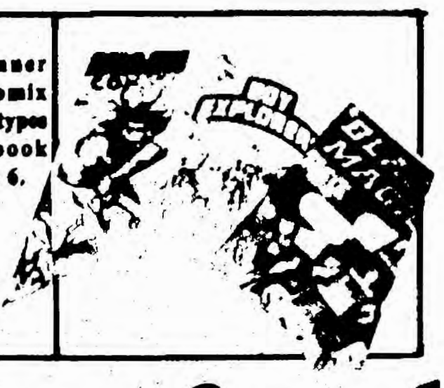

ASB donates $5,000 to tax election fund

By CURT KAMMERAAD
News Editor

BC student representatives have pledged $5,000 in support of the Kern Community College District's parcel tax election, according to ASB President Sandi Munoz.

"We have done this to show the district and the community that student government is really behind their school," Munoz explained.

The Board of Student Representatives agreed Tuesday to approve the request for money that was submitted by the ASB Finance Committee on Feb. 20, she said.

According to Kern County Clerk Gale Enstad the election is set for June 4. "Tuesday was the last day in which arguments could be submitted for or against the measure for printing on the sample ballots," said Enstad. Only the KCCD submitted an argument— an argument that was for the measure, he said.

Also included in the sample ballots, which will be mailed out approximately three weeks before the election, will be an "impartial analysis" of the measure composed by the Kern County Counsel. According to Enstad, the impartial analysis is a legal position as to the measure's effect on the community.

"Since we didn't receive any arguments except from the KCCD we don't have to wait for rebuttals," said Enstad. The measure will be sent for printing of the ballots following a 10—day public examination period.

Enstad explained, the public examination period will expire on March 8.

Although the wording of the measure could still be challenged in court, Enstad says, "from here on out it's just routine."

Exactly how much money will be spent where, should voters approve the initiative, is still uncertain. KCCD Chancellor James C. Young said that district trustees have not yet completed projections for planned use of the funds. "We want to wait until we look at all the projects so that they match the money we have," he explained.

More specific information would be available in about two weeks, Young added.

According to the resolution as adopted by trustees, the election, if successful, would authorize the district to impose a $5 parcel tax on all taxable parcels of land within the district, and $10 for each taxable parcel of land exceeding one acre within district boundries.

Agricultural and mineral producing properties also would be subject to the tax, according to the resolution.

Young did say that the anticipated $2.2 million the district would receive from the election would be spent in upgrading the facilities at Porterville College , BC, and Cerro Coso College.

The funds, which would be in addition to funds appropriated for the district by the California State Legislature, could be used for the acquisition of instructional equipment, major maintenance and remodeling, and improvement of libraries at the three colleges.

Although student government and district trustees favor the tax, Anna K. Allen, executive director of the Kern County Taxpayer's Association said their board has yet to make a decision on the measure. "We won't know our stand on the matter until sometime in March," she said.

RODNEY THORNBURG/Rip Staff

Has spring sprung?

Recent warm weather has caused the trees in Campus Center to break into blossom. Forecasters refuse to commit themselves to a long term prediction of whether the warm spell will last.

BPD recovers property

Anonymous tip alerts BC police

By MICHAEL BLACK BULL
Staff Writer

An anonymous tip has helped the Bakersfield Police Department recover items believed stolen from the BC campus, according to Leon Ragsdale, head of BC security.

"We received two notes, one of which was left on a patrol car, which provided information about where the stolen items, two vacuum cleaners and a moped, could possibly be found," says Ragsdale.

According to Ragsdale, one of the vacuum cleaners was reported missing from the custodial room in the Campus Foyer Feb. 26. The moped was reported stolen from the southeast student parking lot Feb. 21. Information on the other vacuum cleaner was not available.

Acting upon information provided in the notes, police located one vaccuum cleaner and a moped believed to be those taken from the campus and arrested a BC student that West Kern Municipal Court records have identified as Jesse Lenoir.

Lenoir pleaded not guilty Thursday to misdemeanor charges of grand theft auto and receiving stolen property and was released on his own recognizance, according to court records. A preliminary hearing has been set for 1:30 p.m., March 22, in Division D of the West Kern Municipal Court.

BC Dean of Students Frank Gornick has not yet decided what action to take on the case. "I'm waiting for the particulars to cross my desk," he says. "As with any case my judgment will be based on the case's merits."

Ragsdale speculates that the anonymous tipster was motivated by a desire to "do the right thing."

"I think someone found out some information and felt an obligation to report it," he said. 'I wish there were more people like that.'

Four dorm positions open

By KIMBERLY WARD
Editor in Chief

Four resident advisor positions and the dorm program activity coordinator position are opening in the dormitories next semester according to Ruben Mendoza, senior program coordinator.

"The first informational meeting will be tommorrow at 2:30 p.m. in the Levinson Hall," said Mendoza. "The informational meetings are to open people's eyes. Sometimes they seem to think that it's really easy to be an RA."

Mendoza emphasized that being an RA includes a number of duties. Current resident adviser Julie MacDonell agreed.

"You have to have a lot of patience," she commented. "It is especially hard to go from just plain resident to the RA because the other girls have to get used to you being in the position of authority. You have to enforce the rules and make sure that about 40 girls get along relatively well."

According to Mendoza the capacity of the dorms is 61 students in each dorm, but the capacity hasn't been reached this semester. There are two advisers for each dorm, and this semester there is a staff person at each dorm.

Laurie Grider, the current program coordinator will be leaving this semester,however, for a position at Eissler Elementary School. Grider is the staff person in the women's dorm.

Grider's basic responsibility is to coordinate the activities for the "dormies," according to Mendoza.

"I work with the dorm council on a lot of the activities," said Grider. "But if I'm here and I see a violation of the rules, then I have to respond to it and see that it gets taken care of."

MacDonell mentions that RA's don't deal only with the specific rules violations.

"You learn a lot about how to communicate with people," she commented.

"It's very important to be non-judgemental," said Grider. "You get people from all different backgrounds and families; you learn to accept them for what they are. It (the job) definitely challenges your ability to communicate."

Mendoza agreed. He explained that it is just for this purpose that

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Women, minorities inadequately represented says BC committee

By LUCINDA DILLON
Staff Writer

Since 1982, 17 male employees have been hired by the Kern Community College District. In comparison, only two Hispanics and 15 women have been added to the staff.

No other ethnic minorities have been hired.

The BC Affirmative Action Committee, headed by Dr. David Scott, assistant to the president, was formed in 1983 to try to increase the number of women and minorities on the staff, in order to better represent the community and student body.

"As far as women and minorities go, we are short of where we should be," Scott said of BC affirmative action.

According to Scott, the campus affirmative action committee follows the guidelines set by Title 5, Division 4 of the California Administrative Code which states, "Community colleges have an obligation to promote cultural, racial, and human understanding within the communities they serve, as well as within their spheres of influence."

A workshop was held recently to discuss the moral aspect of affirmative action, which Scott says is the most optimistic channel the college can take toward the issue.

"The Reagan administration hasn't been very active in supporting this issue. It has to be a moral judgement," Scott said.

Since the committee has formed, however, there has been no progress made, according to Scott. "The Bakersfield community is about 18 to 20 percent Hispanic, depending on whose figures you look at. Fifteen to 16 percent of the student body (at BC) is Hispanic. Hispanics only make up 4.2 percent of the staff," Scott said.

Females are equally under—represented. "Thirty-seven percent of the staff is female, but over 50 percent of the student body is female," he said.

However, Scott said some areas are more noticable than others when it comes to women and minority representation. "There are not too many women in the science and industrial ed departments, but you can turn that around and say there aren't many males teaching in the home ec departments," Scott said.

He added that there are no black administrators and only one Hispanic adminmistrator on campus. Three females hold administrative positions.

The committee hopes to turn this situation around by informing department chairpersons and faculty about the situation. "The hiring at the college is very de—centralized. The individual departments screen and interview candidates and recommend to Dr. Wright whom they want to hire," said Scott.

Scott hopes this problem can be solved by increased awareness on the part of the hiring bodies. "We have to sensitize the people who are hiring to the poor record, and emphasize that we have to make progress," he said.

Another current problem lies in questionable guidelines that are set for hiring. "We are also telling them not to set qualifications that eliminate all but their friends. This isn't a conscious discrimination, but it has that effect, Scott said.

"Sometimes we know a person who happens to be a white male, and we know he is very qualified and that he will fit in. It's very easy to say 'let's hire him'," Scott said.

There are several reasons why the affirmative action process has not progressed further than it has.

"For one thing, very few women and minorities have applied," Scott pointed out.

The committee will attempt to publicize the local positions more to make applicants aware of the availability of jobs. As the first step in this action, a sub committee has been formed to meet with KCCD Chancellor James Young, and to set up a nationwide campus recruitment plan.

"We have to find the qualified candidates who are just graduating with a master's (degree) out of college," Scott said.

However, Scott acknowledges that BC representatives are not the only institutions looking for minority employees. "Most colleges have the same problem we do. A highly-qualified hispanic is in demand, and Bakersfield is not exactly considered the garden spot of the western world," Scott said.

Another program which is being organized to support the affirmative action process is a management internship program to begin in 1985-86.

"This would be a progam for the faculty where they would work with existing administrators on relevent projects of importance to the college. It would be an internship of sorts for the purpose of giving an administrative experience to women and minorities," he said.

Scott feels the timing is good for the committee's plan as many of the campus hirings take place in the spring.

"If we are going to make an impact we have to make it now," he said.

In the affirmative action workshop, which was presented by Dr. Jack Hernandez in early February, the moral and ethical issues of affirmative action were stressed.

"For the equal opportunity law and in the spirit of equal opportunity, it is up to us to express our committment to justice, of being fair to everyone, especially with respect to job importance," Hernandez said.

Hernandez, who recently resigned as vice-chancellor of the KCCD, was in charge of affirmative action for the district while in that position.

"In seeking fairness, it is up to us to open up to as wide a number of people as we can who want to apply," Hernandez said.

There are a few instances where this would not apply, according to Hernandez. "The word 'business necessity' is used when you are somehow reducing the staff because of an economic need to cut costs."

Another instance where equal availablity of a position would not apply is if the position has specific qualifications and only one person within an institution is qualified for that position.

"Sometimes if they only open a position in house and they don't want to add to the staff, they open up the position within the staff only," Hernandez said.

The laws and moral obligations on equal opportunity not only apply to hiring, but also to promotion, according to Hernandez. "It could also apply in a situation where training was provided which could lead to promotion," he said.