

Covering a dog demonstration among other events, winning entries of high school journalists from BC's 'J Day' competition.

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Films and music are being blamed for the latest high school shooting, but do they deserve the blame? Opinion, page 3

Renegade track team performs well at Southern Regional meet, moves on to state meet in San Francisco. Sports, page 7

THE RENEGADE RIP

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Bakersfield College

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MIKE CUNNINGHAM / THE RIP

Cadet Mike Letzner practices arrest procedures in the Gil Bishop Sports Center. He is one of 19 trainees in the program.

College receives bomb threat

BY MERI RENEE LOPEZ
Special to The Rip

The fear from Littleton, Colo. came home to Bakersfield College early Wednesday morning when a bomb threat caused the campus to be evacuated. The threat kept students and staff from their classes and jobs for about an hour as all buildings were searched. No bomb was found.

The call came in at 8:25 a.m. and was taken by an admission and records clerk. A man told the clerk that he had planted a bomb somewhere on campus. "Find it" were his last words before hanging up. The woman then called campus security.

Dr. Sandra Serrano ordered the evacuation of the campus, while the Bakersfield Police Department was called to help search buildings.

"The protocol went very well," said Michele Allen, director of public information. "The first thing we do is evacuate the building and a walk-through is done looking for any suspicious items. Because it was a campus-wide evacuation, people were asked to move to designated perimeter areas."

The two established areas were the soccer field located on the left side of the library, and University Park located across Bakersfield College. Classes resumed by 10 a.m.

Students and staff sat or stood on the soccer field, mingling with each other until they were told it was safe to return to the campus. Many students expressed fear about the bomb threat in light of the school violence incidents happening throughout the nation.

"Thousands of lives are at stake," said Jessica Dickson, a liberal arts student. "It's a pretty scary feeling when you can't even feel safe at school."

Others were concerned about safety.

"It's ridiculous," said Lily Szpoganicz, a biology major. "Some people are here because they couldn't go to class. What if someone pulls out a gun knowing that we're all out here."

Those interviewed on the soccer field described the bomb threat as a wake up call to Bakersfield College students.

"I think that the people who are making the bomb threat don't have respect for the true loss and horror the people in Colorado experienced and I think it's a real shame. Each and every one of us need to come together and stop it," claimed Erin Miller, a history major.

Allen mentioned that any students fearful of their safety had the option of leaving the campus. The goal of officials was to evacuate the people to a location far away from the buildings.

John Medvigy, student representative on the safety committee said

See BOMB, Page 2

the FUTURE of LAW ENFORCEMENT



Cadets learn handcuffing techniques in the 21-week class. The academy is a 12-unit course offered at BC.

Rigorous training course at Bakersfield College prepares cadets for police work.

BY MICHAEL D. ROSS
Managing Editor

When people think of law enforcement they often picture cops gulping down coffee and scarfing doughnuts in a pastry shop. But, at Bakersfield College, law enforcement is given a different appearance.

You'll see them running six miles throughout the campus, practicing strenuous defensive tactics in the gymnasium and spending night and day studying for exams for 21 straight weeks.

They are the student cadets of the Bakersfield Law Enforcement Academy.

"You have to be committed," said Recruit Training Of-

ficer Wally Whitaker. "Not only do they get eight hours a day up here, when they go home at night, they better be studying because they're going to have an exam on Friday. And if they can't pass that exam, they're going to be out the door."

The academy is a 12-unit course put on as a joint effort of the Bakersfield Police Department and BC that certifies recruits through the state Peace Officer Standards and Training Commission.

Nineteen cadets are enrolled in the program, including 11 BPD probationary officers, one Kern County Sheriff's Department probationary officer and one Kern County Parks probationary officer.

The cadets meet almost every weekday morning at 7:45 for gear inspection and go to classroom instruction until noon with five to 10 minute breaks each hour. The cadets have an hour-long lunch and then regroup at 1 p.m. for more instruction or testing. At 3 p.m., the cadets participate in physical training or defensive tactics for two hours.

According to Sgt. Roger Ott with the BPD, the defen-

sive tactics consist of baton training, defensive methods against attacks, tactics for extracting people from vehicles when they will not cooperate, handcuffing, holds and escapes.

"We're near the end of the academy," said Ott. "We've taught them everything they're going to be taught. Now we're reviewing because we're going to test them on everything they did and unlike a written test you take in a law class or something like that, where you have a 70 percent chance to pass it, with defensive tactics, you have to pass with 100 percent."

In addition to physical training and defensive tactics, the cadets also learn pursuit driving, use of firearms and cultural diversity and tolerance.

According to Rick Davis, the program coordinator, police trainees in the BPD make \$2,750 per month. Once they become a police officer, their salary is raised to \$3,300 to \$3,700.

Davis said the program increases a BPD hopeful's chance of being hired by the department.

Mariachi band, dancers highlight celebrations

College club hosts festivities to remember Cinco de Mayo holiday.

BY DAVID LAWLOR
Editor in Chief

Armando Vazquez walked onto the stage in Campus Center, gym bag in hand.

"The question is, 'what's in the bag?'" he said to the crowd gathered at the benches and tables. "Actually, the question should be, 'what's in your heart?'"

Vazquez, regional director of administration and finance for the Kern County Superintendent's Office, was the guest speaker during the daylong Cinco de Mayo celebration at Bakersfield College Wednesday.

"We need to talk about what's going on in the world today," Vazquez said. "We need to share our love and our faith and that's what events like this work to do."

BC's M.E.Ch.A. club hosted the festivities. The club's historian, Leon Arellano, served as MC for the day. The events were held to commemorate Cinco de Mayo, Mexico's holiday marking their defeat of the French Army in 1862.

"It's very important to celebrate Cinco de Mayo," said Arellano. "It's important to remember the people and it gives us a sense of pride."

Reinforcing that sense of pride were dancers from Alegria en el Valle, a local group of Mexican dancers adorned in brightly colored dresses and hair bows. Providing the music for the dancers was Mariachi San Marcos, a traditional mariachi group. BC food services provided

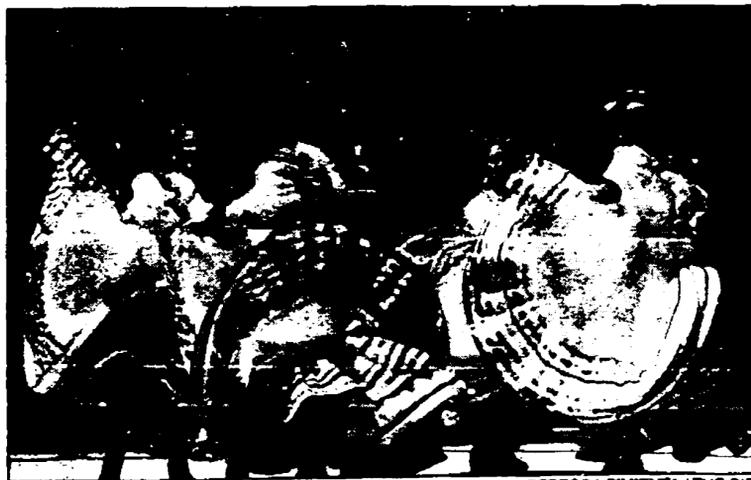
an outdoor lunch of Mexican food.

"The events improve every year," said Cornelio "Corny" Rodriguez, director of the Chicano Cultural Center. "The thing I like is that you see people here from not only BC but the whole community. There are people from Cal State (Bakersfield), students from some of the elementary schools are here too. This way we get the message out to the whole community."

Children from Lonna Linda Preschool were given a chance to partake in the festivities as well.

Stick in hand, the kids swung at a piñata hung over a tree in the Free Speech Area.

"I'm glad we could get everybody out and celebrate the day," said Arellano. "It's nice to see everyone come together for a good cause and to learn something about the Mexican culture."



REBECCA PIMENTA / THE RIP

Folldorico dancers perform in Campus Center Wednesday. Dancing, mariachis and other events were held to celebrate Cinco de Mayo.

BOMB: Students upset over threat

Continued from Page 1
cussed the need to respond to the bomb threat.

"If there is a bomb threat in a specific area, you need to move them back a reasonable amount, at least 150 yards from the building," he said. "It's better to have them away from the possible bomb in case anything happens. True, it could be a set up for a massacre, if there's a bomb it could do a lot more damage. It's just common sense. A bomb could have a lot more of an effect with the debris and shrapnel. Although there's no good situation, the bomb threat is a bigger risk."

Students were not the only ones complaining. Some staff and faculty members expressed their discontent about the false bomb scare.

"I'm mad. It's an inconvenience," said Irene Spencer, secretary for the student activities office. "I have too much work to stand out there for an hour and a half."

This is the fifth bomb threat Bakersfield College has had this academic year.

According to Allen, the campus was evacuated quicker than in previous bomb threats.

Sean Miller, ASBC president agreed. "It seems like they're getting the whole system done better. It was a better job of clearing people than last year. They cleared the campus real quick."

Bart Andrus, director of student activities, said that a bomb threat is something to take seriously.

"With the events of Colorado on our mind, we took this threat pretty seriously. Student, faculty and staff



MIKE CUNNINGHAM / THE RIP

Students return to class after campus was cleared and deemed safe. This was the fifth bomb threat this year.

safety was taken into consideration. It hurts students who need to get into class to graduate, to fulfill requirements if they're on financial aid."

Students should report suspicious activities to campus police. The code blue phones are available to all students in case of an emergency.

Why do people perpetuate hoaxes? It's something we have to be aware of," replied Andrus. "The bottom line was we took it as a real possibility—the campus reacted well and the procedure worked and thank goodness it was just a hoax. Hopefully we don't relax too much into that."

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ASBC officers elected for next year despite low voter turnout

BY MONICA MONZON
Rip staff writer

About 389 Bakersfield College students voted for next year's incoming officers of the Associated Student of Bakersfield College.

"It (turnout) was lower than last year," Peggy Brust, vice president of communications said. "We had about 500 students vote."

The winners are: Tracey Mitchell; president, Leann Bowen; vice president of legislation, Tadeu Szpoganicz; vice president of activities, Brian Bowers; vice president of finance, Peggy Brust; vice president of communications, Kim Borden; trustee liaison. The senators are: Leon Arellano; activities, Olesya Panchenko; student relations, Frank Navarro; political senator, Yvonne Palacios; staff relations, Hope

Edwards; open forum senator, Teri Brene; public relations Jean-Marie Pascale; athletics, Aaron Pinkstoom (write in) also was voted for chief justice and Kimberly Py for associate justice.

"It's exciting," Brust said. "I will get a chance to get involved for my last year."

It will be Brust's second year in the student government as vice president for communications. Bart Andrus, director of student services, said he was surprised with all the initial sign-ups for office. According to Andrus, about 13 to 14 students ran for office, but many of the candidates had no one to compete against. Because they were unopposed, it was difficult to motivate the candidates to have some excitement in running for office, he said. But their incoming officers have better qualifications and experience in their

The candidates will not be sworn into office until early June. Andrus said it would give the candidates time to review over their goals for the upcoming year. ASBC is going to try to encourage more students to become involved with student government. The student government is also trying to become better informed on student affairs and what is happening on the BC campus.

The candidates' goals are to work together to ensure that student needs are met, to continue the parking lot project, build a student lounge where students can relax and to make sure that shared governance is always present on all decisions made on campus that will affect students.

Renegade Rip staff wins numerous awards

Students at The Rip won numerous awards this semester at the Journalism Association of Community Colleges State Convention and at the recent Kern Press Club Awards.

The winners at the JACC State Competition were:

Mail-in Awards: Front Page Design: David Lawlor, fourth place; News Story: David Lawlor, honorable mention; David Lawlor and Lexey Swall, third place; Depth News Story/Series: Renegade Rip Staff, honorable mention; Investigative News Story/Series: Lexey Swall, David Lawlor and Meri Renee Lopez, third place; Editorial: David Lawlor, honorable mention; Critical Review: Audreyana

Club Awards were:

Column Writing: David Lawlor and Nichole Perry; Sports Photo: Michael D. Ross; Feature Photo: George Miller; Page Design/Layout: Robert Taylor; Sports Story: Anastasia Krier; Feature Story: David Lawlor; Editorial Writing: David Lawlor; News Story: David Lawlor.

When combined with the 27 regional JACC awards won in the fall, The Rip has won a total of 55 awards this year. In addition to awards, several staffers have been awarded Californian scholarships. Last year's editor, Lexey Swall, also has been hired by The Californian as a summer photo intern.

Winners of the Chain-Younger Student Awards at the Kern Press Convention were:

Editorial: David Lawlor, honorable mention; News Story: David Lawlor, honorable mention; Investigative News Story/Series: Lexey Swall, David Lawlor and Meri Renee Lopez, third place; Editorial: David Lawlor, honorable mention; Critical Review: Audreyana

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COLLEGE GRADUATION

Public blames films such as 'Basketball Diaries,' starring Leonardo DiCaprio, for youth savagery.

BY ALEC ORRELL
Rip staff writer

Practically no doubt remains that violent movies and television shows spawn violent behavior in children.

The American Medical Association, the American Psychological Association and the National Institute of Mental Health have all criticized the media

— and television in particular — for perpetuating violence like the killing spree seen at Columbine High in Littleton, Colo.

And the news media — again, particularly television — receive a lot of abuse because of "negative reporting" and pictures of victims in pools of blood. But the blame on the news media is misdirected. It takes more than a crime scene picture to stir the imagination of somebody like Dylan Klebold or Eric Harris, the killers at Columbine High. It takes a positive portrayal of killing, a glorification of it. The news media are not in the business of portrayal.

In 1998, The Center for Media and Public Affairs studied television and found that nearly 40 percent of the violent incidents on television were committed by characters who have qualities that make them attractive role models. Most of us have seen that. Male criminals in hip movies like "Face/Off" slaughter police, escape cleverly and then have their pick of attractive women. Police officers in exciting detective shows like "NYPD Blue" shoot down suspects routinely, whereas most police officers will tell you they rarely draw their guns — if at all.

However, in the paper and on the nightly news, the killers and victims are real. The news media report the facts without either glorifying or disparaging killers. To do otherwise would violate the ethics of the profession.

In fact, if anything, the miserable face of a killer in an ugly prison uniform as he or she is led handcuffed in front of a judge should deter kids from seeking a violent life that would land them in a similar place.

That is not to say that the media doesn't raise consciousness of violence. But that doesn't have to be construed as a bad thing. While the breaking into cartoon time by a Los Angeles news station to show live coverage of a man who shot himself was wrong,



it is not usual. Overall, most people would rather know about the possibility of massacres like Columbine than remain in the dark and have their children's innocence forcibly preserved. Censoring violent stories would not make the violence culture go away.

Dylan Klebold and Eric Harris were not found collecting tapes of the six o'clock news or clips of crime columns. They listened to rock groups that put a catchy beat to killing. They spent hours watching video games in which an adversary is terminated in a burst of gore without consequences. Their entertainment at every turn — and that of many other young murderers — puts a sexy, powerful and totally unrealistic spin on death and its agents. It is no wonder that more children and young adults are living the dream of Leonardo DiCaprio in "Basketball Diaries," in which he imagines dressing in a trenchcoat and killing classmates and a teacher.

Kids spend tremendous amounts of time on media — television, computer games, music and comics. So long as these entertainment media aggrandize bloody fists and blazing guns, the newspaper and the nightly news will do their ethical duty to mirror the society and inform it of itself. They will keep reporting the deaths of innocent kids who were so out of the mainstream that they probably couldn't recognize a TEC9 semiautomatic or a nail-stuffed pipe bomb if their lives depended on it.

Parental nurturing key to avoiding violence

BY NICHOLE PERRY
Rip staff writer

In the wake of the Littleton, Colo. incident many are quick to blame. It's the pure hatred depicted in video games and the lyrics of industrial music. It's all that information available on the Internet. It's those mean and nasty popular people who won't let a poor kid be.

Let's get serious and place the fault where it belongs. A parent's role in the development of a child is beyond crucial and the incidents in Colorado may be directly linked to negligent parenting on behalf of the Harris and Klebold families.

The inconnu is astounding. A small group of social misfits raised in upper-middle-class surroundings who exhibit the virtues of Hitler and sport racial slurs, sport black trenchcoats rain or shine, who despise those in "the" group and generally loathe the very existence of those not in their circle, decide to blow apart a high school. And their parents saw it coming.

The headlines of the "Trenchcoat Mafia" all have a common characteristic in common: individualism. Spurred by the popular group on campus for their less-than-perfect personality, these individuals banded together and eventually succumbed to peer conformity.

The psychological text "Adolescence," written by Erik Erikson, defines the behavioral peg as "withdrawn, hostile, aggressive, or defiant." They strive to gain attention, though often negative, and usually become quite intense when ignored. This definition lends evidence to make one believe this dark clan to be prime candidates.

In several accounts of the murders, Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold were described as quiet, withdrawn boys who spent most of their time alone within their small group or alone. This withdrawal lead the boys, like many teens, to the solitary confines of their bedrooms.

The Columbine High students were simply left with too much time on their hands and no direction. Obviously, the two were quite intelligent. Police raids carted out boxes of intricate maps and researched plans for various explosive devices.

It must be said, these boys were no different from many other young men in their hobbies and interests, but they, however, lacked a grasp of reality and consequently; they had no respect for human life.

These views and the lack of ethics were only amplified by the negligent role of the adults in their lives. When a youth displays red-flag signs of antisocial behavior, it is the parent's duty to step in and question. But the parents of Klebold and Harris did no such thing. For reasons, perhaps unknown, the families of the boys did nothing to end the dysfunctional behavior of their offspring.

In the book, "Adolescent Relations with Mothers, Fathers, and Friends," by James Youniss and Jaqueline Smollar, the authors contend that children raised in homes of permissively inattentive parents tend to be included in behavioral high-risk groups. Therefore, parents are directly to blame for the root of the emotional problem of the child.

Though we are not certain of the conditions of the private confines of their households, these factors may have played a role in the actions of Harris and Klebold.

Like many parents today who juggle jobs and/or school, finances, and various other tasks such as the role of parent, the Harris and Klebold families will live alone. But with the increase in "kid culture," American society must take a step out of the picture and re-evaluate the situation at hand.

Essence of prime time television lost to boring, pointless sitcoms

BY DAVID LAWLOR
Editor in Chief

Jerry's gone and so is Bill, or at least he should be, and nobody seems to know anyone's name anymore. There's Will and Grace and Dharma and Greg and some fat, annoying guy who claims he's the king of Queens. And who loves Raymond? Not me.

I'll admit it, I like television. While I was growing up, my school nights were marked by TV. After my sister and I would finish our homework we'd sit in the living room and watch for an hour or so with my mom and dad. Call it the '80s equivalent to family bonding, but as silly as it may sound, I really enjoyed those times I spent with my family in front of the ol' tube. And back in those blissful days of my youth, there were quality prime-time shows worth plopping down on the couch for.

Mainstays like "The Cosby Show," "Cheers," hell, even that stupid show "Perfect Strangers" with the guy Balki who hailed from some god-awful, Third World country were funnier than most of

the junk on TV today. There was "Roseanne," in its heyday, "Family Ties," "Growing Pains" and a slew of other shows that may have been trite, but at least were entertaining and suitable for the whole family.

There were shows for the grown-ups too. When the kids were tucked away dramas like "Hill Street Blues" and the all-time classic "Dallas," kept the folks glued to the set. TV was everything it was supposed to be; entertaining, funny and most of all, worth watching. So what happened? What happened to the big three networks (four counting Fox) that turned their quality prime time live-ups into prime time crap?

First of all, TV's lost its big stars. The "Cheers" Ted Danson is gone. Well he's there but now he's on some horrible show called "Becker." Jerry Seinfeld left. And Bill Cosby's seen his Herculesan grip on TV disappear as he continues to founder on his self-titled vehicle. Who are we to look to as our TV heroes now? Ray Romano? Come on. This guy's voice is more annoying than Fran Drescher's and his show is, how shall I say it, boring. And

don't try to push Tim Allen on me as TV's new messiah. Thank you, God, for getting rid of him and his lame program. OK, we get it, he barks and he fixes stuff. Yeah it was funny, about five years ago.

Another tragedy of TV in the '90s — magazine-news shows. What's "Dateline" on now, like, 12 times a week? There's "48 Hours," "60 Minutes" and now, the new "60 Minutes II." I can only hear about the Columbine massacre so many times on these shows before I just stop caring. And, as Seinfeld might ask, what's the deal with "Dateline's" stupid Timeline segment anyway? Okay, Kane slew Able, the wheel was invented and cholera killed thousands. What year was it: 1200 BC, 1201 BC or 1202 BC? Um, can I vote for who cares?

But, I guess I shouldn't complain too much. I've got a still handful of programs I enjoy watching. I love what I consider the most clever and well-written show of the '90s, "The Simpsons." Even though I'm almost ashamed to admit it, I'm completely addicted to "Ally McBeal." It's kind of like a grown-up version of "Beverly Hills 90210," but with fewer



JAY MAUSER / THE RIP

cry-baby, rich kids and more humor. And, while they're not officially prime time shows, I still watch "The Tonight Show" and "Late Night with Conan O'Brien" regularly.

Maybe network TV faltered with the advent of cable and satellite programming or maybe quality writers and actors are harder to come by. Or maybe I've just outgrown the sitcom humor I enjoyed so much as a kid. See SITCOM, Page 8

THE RENEGADE RIP

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GADE FEEDBACK

REBECCA PIMIENTA / THE RIP

What would you do to improve school safety?

Ernie Sanchez, Liberal Studies: "The security we have is good. I would like to see more cops and blue lights."

Tanya Sanders, Liberal Studies: "I would like more lighting, parking closer to classes and the shuttle for night people that go to their cars."

Charles Brown, Computer Science: "I don't think it needs improvement."

Lilly Szpoganicz, Biology: "The school could provide self-defense classes so students wouldn't need to depend so much on school security."

Anna Morales, Car Show Representative: "Install metal detectors, increase security and teach discipline to the students."

Acclaimed poet will read work at college

BY MERI RENEE LOPEZ
Special to The Rip

A recently elected chancellor of the Academy of American Poets will come to Bakersfield College May 10 for a reading of her poetry, essays and translations.

"We are lucky to have someone of her caliber come to Bakersfield College."
— Brenda Freaney, English professor

She will present a reading of her work May 10 at 7 p.m. in the Fireside Room. Reception and signing of her books will follow the event.

Dr. Karen Tepfer, a Bakersfield College English professor, is one member of the campus committee responsible for bringing literary figures to Bakersfield College for readings or lectures for the students.

"She's a teacher, she's also a translator, she's an essayist, a scholar," Tepfer said. "We're lucky to have someone of her stature here because she really is one of the most important younger poets today."

"Her poetry is energetic and electrical ... it's the kind of poetry that will wake you up and move you."

McHugh began writing when she was a child and started publishing in major magazines when she was in college.

She received her bachelor's degree at Harvard University and finished her graduate studies in English literature at Denver University.

Her most recent work entitled "Hinge and Sign: Poems 1968-1993," was a National Book Award Finalist in 1994 and was on the New York Times best book list for the same year. In 1984 she was appointed the Millman Distinguished Writer-in-Residence at the University of Washington, where she currently lives part of the year with her husband in Seattle.

'10-10' numbers offer discounts, but read the fine print

BY MELISSA DABRUSHMAN
Rip staff writer

Not too long ago, a person could make a long distance telephone call and only need to dial 11 numbers, one, an area code and then the number.

But today, radio stations and television commercials are heavily promoting 10-10 numbers that promise savings on long distance calls and pressure consumers to use the numbers at every opportunity.

"I couldn't care less," said Hank Fuentes, a Bakersfield College math major. "I use a calling card. That's what I've always used and will always use."

Nevertheless, "10-10" numbers, also known as dial-around numbers, are pretty popular today.

According to Telecom USA, the dial-around consumer population has increased by 40 percent in the past four months.

According to AT&T's website, Louise Harris conducted a study in 1998 of consumers and their experi-

ences with dial-around companies. The study showed a significant lack of awareness of restrictions pertaining to dial-around numbers.

Some dial-around companies make eye-catching claims for low cost long distance that applies to relatively few calls.

The study also showed 48 percent of the consumers who have tried these services did not receive any significant savings.

"I tried a 10-10 number once," said Lili Kuhmak, a BC student. "I didn't save a lot on my bill."

MCI's dial-around service, 10-10-321, advertises a 50 percent discount on long distance calls, but only if the call is at least 10 minutes long. With 10-10-321, if the call is shorter than 10 minutes, it is billed at MCI's basic rate.

WorldChange Communications' "Talk Cents Plan," 10-10-502, quotes a rate of only 7 cents per minute for long distance calls, but doesn't mention the \$3.95 monthly fee in its advertisements.

10-10-811, Vartec's "Dimeline" service, boasts 5 cent calls any time within California, but has a minimum of 15 cents per call.

In a recent study by the Federal Communications Commission, the dial-around market is doing rather well with an estimated \$3-billion-a-year-business in the United States.

Total ad spending for Telecom USA's 10-10-321 alone topped \$119 million last year, according to a recent article in The Los Angeles Times.

"There's been a lot of money thrown at advertising, and the business is growing at a wild clip," said Fred Voit, a senior analyst for consumer communications at Yankee Group, a Boston-based research firm, in The Times story.

Voit also told The Times that a recent survey found 11 percent of U.S. households had used a dial-around company at least once in the last year.

"Consumers have complained to the FCC about hidden charges and misleading advertising," FCC chair-

THE 10-10 GAME

10-10-321 Offers 50% discount on long distance calls if your call is shorter than 10 minutes. It's billed at MCI's basic rate.

10-10-502 7 cents per minute on long distance calls. There is a \$3.95 monthly service fee for this service.

10-10-811 5 cents per minute on calls any time within California. There is a 15 cent per call minimum.

JOE SIMPSON / THE RIP

man William Kennard said in the article. "Consumers want to make informed choices. They want full information, and if the dial-around market cannot provide this information, we will step in to protect consumers."

According to Harris, there are a few things that consumers should do before using a dial-around company. She suggested in an interview

with AT&T web columnist Jim Brock that consumers read all ads carefully before using any 10-10 number.

She advised that consumers make sure that the company they use fully discloses any monthly fees, minimums, or any other factor that may affect savings, adding that consumers need to know how long the call has to be before the discount occurs.

New ASBC president brings enthusiasm to college



Tracey Mitchell, ASBC president elect, hopes to resurface student parking lots.

Tracey Mitchell will replace Sean Miller on June 1.

BY JOE SIMPSON
Rip staff writer

Student government will have someone new in the driver's seat. Tracey Mitchell is the newly elected president of the Associated Students of Bakersfield College.

Mitchell, 34, is a second year student at BC. She is an associate justice involved in campus activities, organizing the Spring Fling festivities last month.

Even though she does not officially take office till June 1, she already has a wealth of ideas for BC. Among her plans is a "weekly open microphone" during the noon hour in the Campus Center for announcements.

She also would like to see student parking lots resurfaced as well as more books in the library. In addition, Mitchell would like to see more fund-raising on campus for students.

"I'd like to do something about the cost of books in the student store if possible," Mitchell commented.

Bart Andrus, director of student activities, said Mitchell is a "high-energy person with a lot of good ideas. It will be hard to slow her down."

Sean Miller, the current ASBC president, is pleased with Mitchell being elected as his replacement. "I think she'll do a great job," Miller said. "She's got a lot of dedication

and motivation." Miller will graduate this semester and is transferring to UC Davis in the fall.

Even though she ran unopposed, Mitchell admitted she was still nervous about the election until the votes were counted. To win, she needed to receive the majority of the votes.

Mitchell is an environmental technology major and plans to eventually work as an environmental lobbyist.

She has strong feelings about the way that the college handles its natural resources.

"I'm one of those tree-hugging, bunny-kissing types," she said. "But I do believe that there is a way for industry, humanity, and the environment to all coexist."

She recently donated her burial plot to the family of a fellow student who died in an auto accident. She has planned an on-going donation drive for the woman's job.

"We'll be placing donation points around the campus for students to put even just pocket change," she explained.

"I'd like to raise enough for at least two years of college by the time he is old enough for it."

Mitchell leads a busy life, being a college student, an ASBC officer and involved in environmental issues.

At home she is a wife and mother of three, Justin, 18, Brittany, 15, and Tyrus, 12. When she's not at school she is spending time with her family. She and her husband, Lance, enjoy working on cars together.

"And of course, I love shopping," she said.

Farewell Spacecadet set themselves apart from local scene

The music weaves itself around the room, woven note by note to become a tapestry of sound that begins and ends noticeably only in its maker's mind. Over this place the

music weaves itself around the room, woven note by note to become a tapestry of sound that begins and ends noticeably only in its maker's mind. Over this place the



Paul Metz, Rip Staff Writer, whose band of break-up rock lyrics and intricate melodies and harmonies set them apart from the pack of hard rock that is customary in Bakersfield, Farewell Spacecadet is made up of Dan Thompson on lead vocals and guitar, Rhal Gallardo on bass, Trevor Pfister on guitar and Justin Cross on drums. The band formed from the members

meeting and playing together in former high school bands.

The Spacecadets have the feel of an "emo" band, a group that plays darker and more musically intricate compositions, but they would never say that themselves.

"I'm all about emo, I like emo, but I think other bands that are emo would be offended if we called ourselves emo," said Thompson.

"I think we're a little more mainstream than most emo bands," added Cross.

Sighting such bands as the Pixies and the Cranberries as their musical influences, the song writing of Farewell Spacecadet stems from individual songwriting endeavors.

"We used to write songs together," Thompson said. "Somebody would come in with a part and then somebody would add a part. Now people have been writing their own things and bringing it in."

As for the basis of the lyrics Thompson said they are about, "Nothing. Rhal's are meaningful. Mine just run."

So what does Gallardo write about? "Friendships, decisions, stupid



Farewell Spacecadet perform recently at Jerry's Pizza in downtown Bakersfield.

SPECIAL HIGH SCHOOL JOURNALISM DAY COVERAGE

Dogs nab 'crooks' in demo

BY MELISSA ZAVALA
Tehachapi High School

The sound of barking police dogs responding to their handlers' commands rang through the campus of Bakersfield College at a recent demonstration displayed by the Bakersfield Police Department K-9 unit.

Established in 1988, the K-9 unit began with four German shepherd police dogs and now consists of six teams along with coordinator Sgt. Glen Grundeis. Grundeis was joined by K-9 unit members Kevin Hook and David Cox in bringing the presentation to Bakersfield College.

The unit uses foreign dogs, trained to find narcotics such as marijuana and cocaine. For the demonstration, two German shepherds, Dex and Cero, followed the commands of Hook and Cox. The unit displayed such training methods as using a protective sleeve worn on a handler's arm to protect it when training a dog in catching criminals, and using hand signals, as a form of command.

"We can only use this method of law enforcement to catch people that may be a serious threat to the community," said Grundeis.

Other methods of training included using muzzles to keep the dog from biting the handler and hiding a toy that smells like a drug and sending the dog on a search for it.

"It's frustrating to train the dogs with hand signals. There are many distractions," said Cox.

The dogs, which come from Germany, are trained for two months after their arrival in the United States. One month is focused on narcotics and the other is focused on obedience. Once the dog is on duty, handlers are expected to train for a minimum of 20 hours a month.

"Dogs are a lot like children," said Cox. "If you don't enforce and practice rules, they try to cheat and get around them."



Richard Jaquez of Bakersfield High School won first place in the on-the-spot news photo contest for his photo of Sgt. Glen Grundeis training with a BPD canine.

RICHARD JAQUEZ/SPECIAL TO THE RIP



A police dog waits for handler's attack command.

'PJs' offers great foamation, few jokes

BY ISAAC CHILDRES
Bakersfield High School

With unsophisticated verbal jokes, silly puns and the characters being predominantly hypocritical in order to derive

laughs, the new Fox series, "The PJs," featuring the voice of Eddie Murphy, who is also the executive producer of the series, can be easily summed up as not that funny.

This animated series follows the life of Thurgood Stubbs, who lives with his wife and a strange variety of friends in the Hilton-Jacobs House-

ing Projects, for which he is the building's superintendent as well.

The series' premiere was a basic introduction to the characters of this building and Stubb's influence on a small boy in the building after he is caught ditching school.

One of the main problems with this was that the basic plot, while being a dominant element in the episode, provided little true humor. A lot of the best humor, which only brings a slight smirk to begin with, is derived from the random situations that surround the plot.

The characters of the series present a problem as well. Although diverse, their main source of humor derives from the problems in the building. These constant problem can

easily get old rather quickly. In addition, so can their voices. The way a lot of characters spoke got rather annoying by the end. One man talks with a raspy electronic voice box, for instance. While initially humorous, it quickly became a nuisance.

The other reason this show's humor just does not cut it is the fact that it pokes fun at minorities and the poverty of the ghetto. A series such as "The Simpsons" can do this with enough sophistication and diversity that it does not pose a problem, but the show's lack of sophistication and diversity does just that. It is constantly making jokes of the African-Americans who are ever-present in the poor ghetto used as its setting. This thought is backed by a loose

coalition of African Americans as well as Project Islamic H.O.P.E., which criticized Murphy for helping to create a comedy that insults African-Americans.

The main redeeming quality of the series is the astounding animation. Developed by Will Vinton, the creator of the "California Raisins," this claymation features the process of foamation. Although relatively expensive—each show costs about \$1 million to make—the series provides a very smooth and realistic picture. It is just pleasing to watch, despite the lack of humor. The animation still does not make up for the show's troubling lack of humor. There are far better things to do on a Tuesday night.

Campbell sets world racing goals

BY CHRISTINE UNDERWOOD
Bakersfield High School

Cal Campbell's life changed for the better on a dark country road in November of 1981. He was drunk and decided to get behind the wheel of a car—a decision that landed him in the hospital with numerous injuries.

Doctors told him he would never walk again. But that was 17 years ago. Since then, which Campbell describes as "some tough times,"

he has married his high school sweetheart, gone back to college, where he is working on his teaching credential, and has found his life's passion: hand cycling.

Since 1997, Campbell has qualified for both national and world racing teams with hopes of competing in Paris this July, the 2000 Summer

Olympics in Sydney, Australia, and Athens, Greece in 2004.

Campbell trains six days a week, for about four to five hours at a time.

"He said, 'I find nothing more enjoyable than riding my bike.'"

When his mother found out about the accident, Campbell said she took his responsibility to heart and decided to change her own life by returning to her Christian faith.

Campbell also sees the crash as a turning point. He said, "So many opportunities have opened up for me. It changed my life."

"I had everything that I could ever want. They say the grass is greener on the other side ... I wanted to try that and I got bit by it."

As an assistant in the Bakersfield College Adaptive PE Program, a program that specializes in helping disabled students, Campbell said, "I feel very fortunate when I go home. I don't take my physique for granted [anymore]."

Bill will create state parenting standard

BY CAMILLE CLOUTIER
Bakersfield High School

The proposition by Assemblywoman Nell Soto to establish a contract for school districts by which parents promise to be involved with their children's education allows the state to impose its own standards of "proper parenting."

Although the intentions of this bill are good, it is not the place of school districts to establish how parents can best help their children's academic careers. Such a compact would require that parents make sure children are ready to learn when they arrive at

school; review and help them with homework; attend school-parent meetings; know state and district academic standards for each grade and subject area; communicate with teachers; and support other positive parent responsibilities related to "successful learning."

It is almost always a given that parents will help their children to be successful in school, whether that means helping them themselves, finding a tutor, or approaching the teacher. However, it is not the responsibility of parents to know academic standards and curriculum. Requirements like this transfers the responsibility of the school and teachers to parents.

This becomes a chance for schools to blame their shortcomings on parents. Parents will be blamed for poor perfor-

mance when it could be quite possible that the lesson or teacher is lacking. Surveys conducted by Southwest Regional Laboratory in 1994 and 1995 of California's chartered schools showed that contracts were successful. However, public school districts should not have the right to tell parents how they can best help students. There needs to be a choice for parents. If they support contracts, they can send their children to chartered schools.

A 1995 Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup poll showed that 89 percent of parents were willing to sign such a contract. Of course parents are willing to do things to help their children. This does not mean it is the state's place to step in and make sure parents are fulfilling their parental obligations.

See Students, Page 8

'Gades softball qualifies for regional playoffs



ROBERT TAYLOR / THE RIP
Tracy Hilvers delivers a fast pitch at a recent game.

Sophomore pitcher Tracey Hilvers leads her squad with 2.43 ERA.

BY JOSE TORINO
Sports Editor

The 1999 women's softball team has struggled throughout the season. The team finished the regular season with a 19-22 overall record.

Despite finishing three games under .500, the Renegades have still managed to secure a spot in the playoffs.

They will play in the regionals next Friday, but who and when they will play has yet to be determined.

"The ideal time to peak is now. If they work together and perform they will be successful."

—Tricia Gay,
assistant coach

"The ideal time to peak is now," said assistant coach Tricia Gay. "If they work together and perform they will be successful."

The 'Gades will have a week to prepare for the playoffs, which could prove to be beneficial, according to

head coach Sandi Taylor.

"It gives us an opportunity to fine tune some skills, now we can concentrate on more specific practices."

This will be the sixth time the Renegades go to regionals in this decade.

They assured themselves of a spot in the postseason by finishing second in the Western State Conference with a 12-8 record.

The team has been led by pitcher Tracey Hilvers, who has pitched in all of BC's victories. She has pitched in 39 games and has maintained an ERA of 2.43. Valerie Rodriguez leads the team with 48 hits and a .375 batting average.

This year's squad is fairly young with only four sophomores and 13 freshmen. The sophomores include Adrian Reyes, Mindi Grider,

Rodriguez and Hilvers. The freshmen players include Jennifer Rupe, Shannon Gregg, Monique Ortiz, Holli Pyland, Millie Connor, Brook Hamilton, Tabitha Connor, Bree Davis, Cecilia Gonzalez, Melissa Flores, Cecilia Guerra, Jessica Saunders and Maura Smith.

One of the season's high points included a victory over the No. 1 ranked team in the state, West Valley College, in the first game of the season. The 'Gades have never beaten them in Taylor's tenure as head coach.

The playoffs are a new season, and the 'Gades will have a clean slate to work with.

"We're going to show our coaches that we can do it," said Connor. "We're going to surprise them."

Bell will compete at state championships

BY BRIANNA CHAMBERS
Rip staff writer

Freshman Jennifer Bell does a lot for the Bakersfield College women's track and field team.

Bell is a multi-dimensional athlete and that has made her a valuable member of the track team.

This versatility is one of the reasons women's track and field coach Pam Kelley encouraged Bell to compete as a heptathlete. It involves the javelin, shot put, high jump, long jump, 100 meter hurdles, 200 meter and 800 meters.

Bell competed on March 30 and 31 at the Southern California Heptathlete Competition, where she placed fourth.

This finish earned her a trip to the state championship meet in San Francisco which will be held May 14 and 15.

"I was proud because this was the toughest field of competition I've seen in five years," said Kelley.

The heptathlon is not the only event Bell does.

In the Western State Conference meet held on April 23, she competed in the 100 meter hurdles, long jump, high jump, 100 meter and 4 x 100 meter relay. She qualified for the Southern California prelims in four of the five events. At the Southern

California prelims last weekend, she tied for first in the high jump and moved on to the Southern Cal finals on Saturday. The hard work is paying off.

"Jen (Bell) works really hard. Because of the variety of events she does, she is always the first to practice and the last to leave," Kelley said.

Track is not a new thing for Bell. She has been doing it for a long time. "I have been doing track since elementary school, but I didn't become serious about it until high school," she said.

At Foothill High School, she was a high jumper and a hurdler.

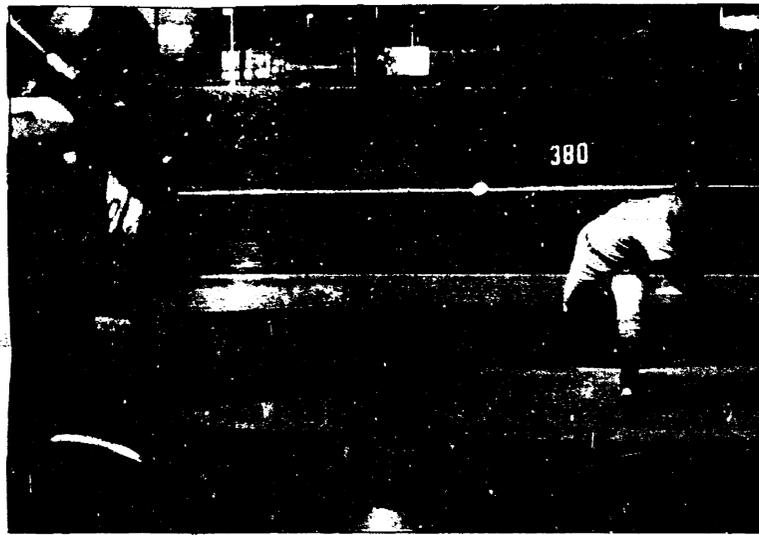
Track has taught Bell something more than just teamwork and responsibility, but about family. Bell is the youngest of two children. Her sister, Jackie Bell, is a thrower on the track team.

"I like having my sister on the team because it has been fun. Track has made us closer," Bell said.

Bell is not only a track athlete but a soccer player as well. She was a forward and left halfback for the BC women's soccer team this season.

Bell will return for another year. She plans to earn her associate's degree in liberal arts, then transfer to California State University, Bakersfield.

A Major League hopeful



SEAN JONES / THE RIP
Colby Lewis pitches at BC as scouts from the Major Leagues were observing his performance.

Tennis squad has most successful season in years despite team turmoil

BY RICHARD D. WHIPPLE
Rip staff writer

An otherwise prosperous season for the Bakersfield College women's tennis team was tainted when a 'Gades tennis player stepped down from the team due to irreconcilable

differences. BC coach Rob Slaybaugh would not comment on the incident and BC athletic director Jan Stuebbe could not be reached for comment on Wednesday.

According to a report in *The Bakersfield Californian*, Dianna Besenthal quit due to treatment that

she received from other teammates stemming from a story the paper published. Besenthal could not be reached for comment.

Moreover, due to the incident, Slaybaugh pulled his team from the Ojai Tournament. But after meeting with Stuebbe, the Western State

Conference champion 'Gades went on to play in the state semi-finals, where they lost to Grossmont 5-0. Despite the defeat and the controversy surrounding the team, Slaybaugh praised his squad.

"We were one of the top four teams in Southern California, which

was excellent considering that we're local kids and just about every team we played in the playoffs had a foreign influence," he said. "It always makes them a little tougher because it allows their local kids to go play down and gets them more even."

BC finished 12-1 in conference

and 15-3 overall.

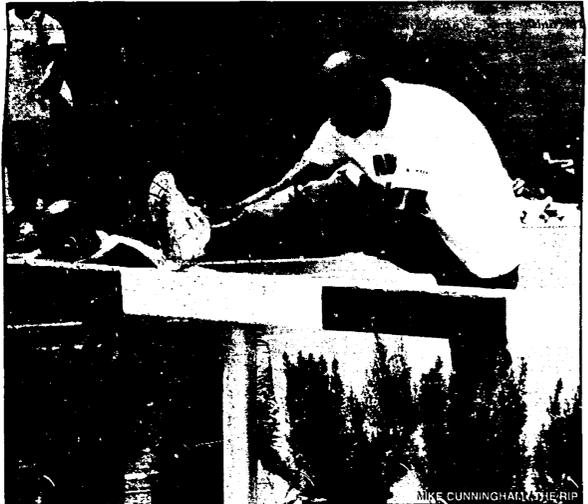
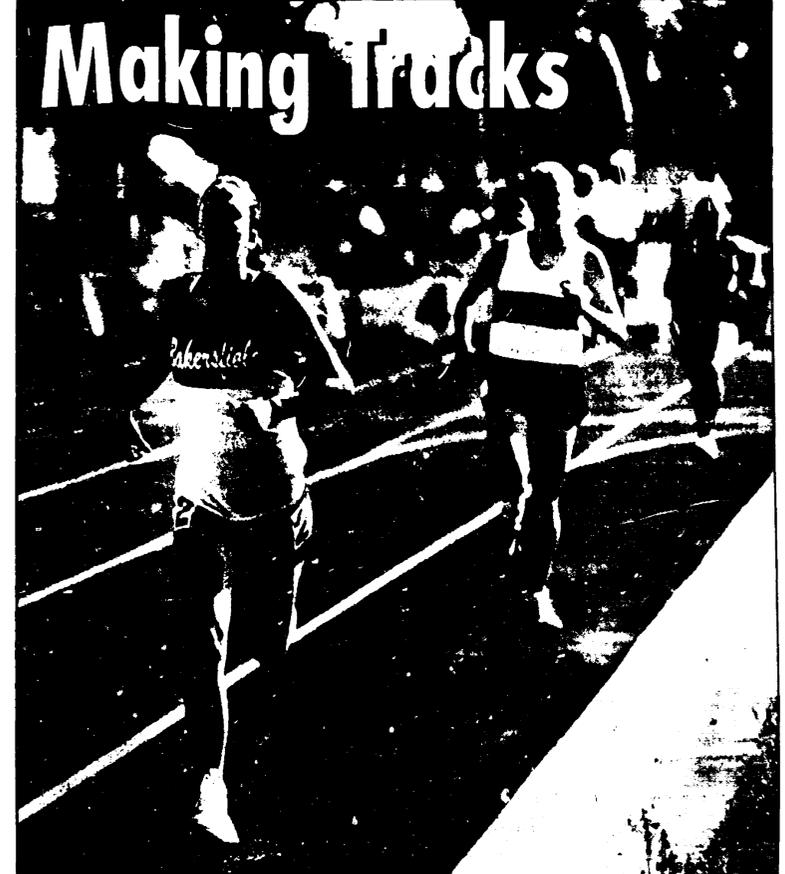
BC was led by team MVP Shannon Bates, who was a first team WSC all-league. Other BC first team WSC all-league honorees were Angela Garibaldi, Cassie Pedrin, Annette Shepard and Stephanie Muir.

Making Tracks



MIKE CUNNINGHAM / THE RIP
BC track team moves on to state finals

The Bakersfield College track team fared well at Southern California Regional meet to move on to the state competition. The Southern California meet was held April 23 at Bakersfield College's memorial Stadium. The state competition will be held in San Francisco May 14 and 15. Many Bakersfield College athletes including Jennifer Bell in the heptathlete and Mike Rexroth in the hammer throw and discus will travel to compete in San Francisco.



Top left: Long jumper Kadell Washington of Santa Monica City College flies through the air as he attempts to beat his personal best mark of 22' 6.5".
Top right: Renegade Anna Rios takes first in the women's 800 meter qualifier.
Middle left: Aubri Preslar of Bakersfield College prepares to hurl the shotput.
Middle Right: Antelope Valley College sprinter Andre Velzquez stretches out before his race.
Left: Joe Garrison of Cuesta College displays good form during the javelin preliminaries.

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Maricela Ramirez, contact person for the Liberal Studies program at CSUB is available every Thursday from 1-5 p.m. through May 20 in the Student Services Bldg., 2nd floor, #191. For an appointment, call 395-4532.



WHAT'S HAPPENING WHERE & WITH WHOM

Church presents scholarship to BC

Members of St. Andrew's United Methodist Church presented a donation to Bakersfield College last week in memory of a local woman who fought for the rights of Japanese Americans during World War II. Emma Buckmaster, a Kern County teacher, was a vocal opponent of the internment of Japanese Americans in detention camps during the war. She helped many local Japanese families conceal their personal property from government confiscation, sometimes storing items at St. Andrew's Church.

In memory of Buckmaster, the church is endowing a scholarship fund with a \$10,000 gift to the Bakersfield College Foundation. Members of the church presented a check to Pat Shaffer, executive director of the BC Foundation, last Friday in the president's office at B.C.

The Rev. Charles Woodworth of St. Andrew's church said the annual scholarships will be targeted at students with a B or better average who are working their way through college.

Cheerleaders plan wet T-shirt event

BC cheerleaders are planning to hold a wet T-shirt car wash Saturday, June 5 at the Fastrip on the corner of Mt. Vernon and University Avenue. The car wash will be held from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Tickets can be purchased in CC4. Presale tickets are \$3 or a larger donation and \$4 on the day of the wash.

Pops concert to be held May 20

Bakersfield College's Music Department will present its annual "Pops and Other Things" concert at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 20, in the Indoor Theater.

The combined BC Orchestra and the Wind Ensemble, under the direction of Robert Martinez, will perform popular music by composers John Williams, Duke Ellington, Bach and others. Also featured will be premiere performances of compositions by BC student composers James Sproul and John Barker.

Tickets are \$5 general admission and \$3 for students and senior citizens. Children 12 and under are admitted free. Call the BC Ticket Office, 395-4326, for information.

'Everyman' continues this weekend

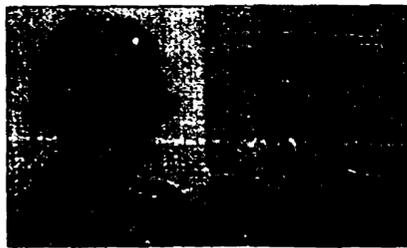
"The Summoning of Everyman" continues today through Sunday, as well as next weekend, May 13, 14 and 15. The play takes place under the stars, in front of the Indoor Theater. It will be a unique interpretation of the medieval play. Ticket prices are \$6 and \$4 and are available in the ticket office.



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5. "The perfect gift for...uh...it's really hard to say."
4. "Give a bottle to that nancy boy son of yours-- it couldn't hurt"
3. "This stuff can make you governor."
2. "Because when you're sitting on your ass all day watching wrestling, you've got to smell your best."
1. "Finally!"

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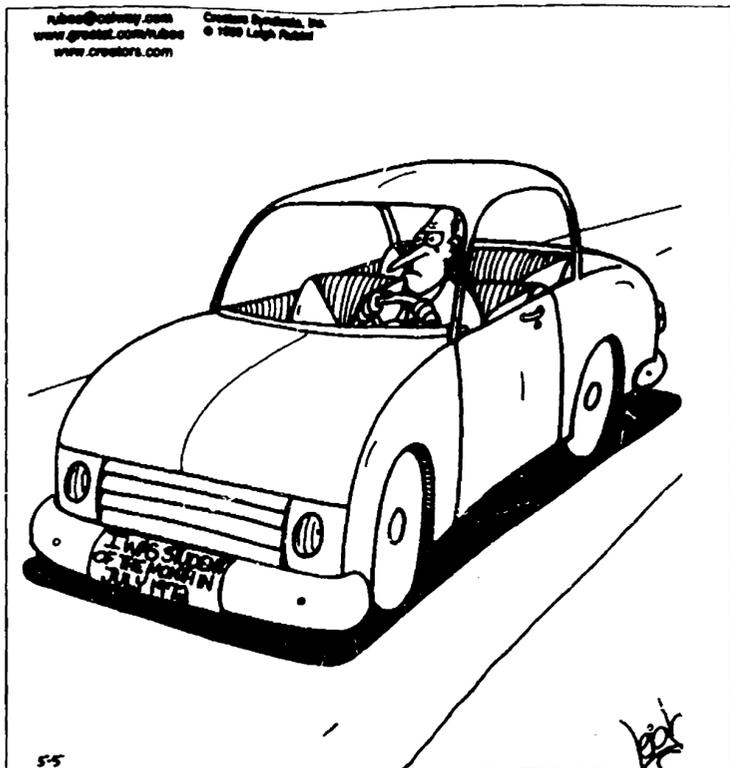
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Rubes

By Leigh Ruben



Leonard desperately clings to the high point of his life.



BY SEAN JONES
Rip staff photographer

Student suspended after angry outburst

A 24-year-old student was suspended indefinitely after he cursed at a campus police officer and other BC students, according to Dr. Lou Farmakis, dean of students.

The suspended student and other students were in the cafeteria discussing the Littleton, Colo. school shooting incident on April 28 when one of the students noticed the 24-year-old was taking what seemed to be too much of his prescribed medication.

When the other students took notice, the 24-year-old became angry.

He screamed at a student, "I'm gonna kick your ass."

The next day, campus police

talked to one of the witnesses who had noticed the student was taking too much medication. Police then found the 24-year-old near the Administration Building.

The man walked up to the patrol vehicle and told officers that the other students were telling him not to take too much medication, since he might pull something similar to what happened in Littleton.

The student became irate again, cursing at campus police. He said he had just finished talking to Farmakis and he didn't care anymore.

He backed away from the patrol vehicle and got into a fighting stance, challenging a campus police officer.

The officer suggested going back inside the building and talking to the dean. The man then ran inside the Administration Building through the glass doors on the south side.

According to reports, the 24-year-old became angry again inside the building and would not listen to campus police or anyone else.

He then calmed down after a few moments in the dean's office.

He was taken to his vehicle by campus police without further incident.

Police investigate stolen parking permits

Two Bakersfield College staff parking permits have been reported stolen to campus police since April 30.

The first permit was reported stolen from a staff member's desk in the agriculture area.

The second permit was stolen out of a staff member's car, which was parked in front of Levinson Hall. Police reports say the theft occurred between 1 and 5:30 p.m. on April 26.

Staffer reports wallet stolen in SAM building

A BC employee reported to campus police that his wallet had been stolen from the costume shop in the Speech, Arts and Music Building.

Police reports say the employee put his fanny-pack on a desk inside the shop at around 2 p.m. on April 30. He noticed his wallet was missing at 7 p.m.

Credit cards and a small amount of cash were in the wallet.

SITCOM: No funny TV shows

Continued from Page 3

Whatever it is, I feel almost offended when I sit through an episode of "Friends" and I'm subjected to a plotline consisting of Joey obsessing about a meatball sandwich and Rachel erasing a message off of Ross' answering machine. What? This is television?

Whatever happened to Jerry and George being mistaken as gay lovers by a college newspaper reporter or Ted Danson and Shelly Long drawing each other into a hilarious slap fight?

Whatever happened to Bill Cosby telling his son Theo about the facts of life or even Al Bundy sliding his hand down the front of his pants? I don't want whiney yuppies stressing over meatball sandwiches and drinking coffee at a hip java bar. I want irony, I want clever writing, I want good old-fashioned humor. I want my Balki.

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Bakersfield College



Campus Center is home to Cinco de Mayo festivities and celebrations. Photo Essay, page 4

Diseases like anorexia and bulimia are prevalent in today's society. A personal look at the problem. Features, page 3



Collin Myers is one of only three BC golfers to have qualified for the state finals in the past 30 years. Sports, page 5



THE RENEGADE RIP

Vol. 70 No. 10

Bakersfield College

May 14, 1999

BC wants 'real' cops, survey says

BY ALEC ORRELL
Rip staff writer

After more than a year of research, the Bakersfield College Security Task Force will soon make its recommendation to President Dr. Sandra Serrano regarding the future of the campus police.

A survey of students and staff finds they want sworn peace officers, according to Brian Jean, a task force member. Jean, a math professor, and his statistics class questioned 1,120 students and 240 employees last fall in a random sampling to determine the feelings of the campus.

Among the survey questions was whether respondents wanted police officers or security guards and whether the officers should carry guns. Campus police are not allowed to carry guns now.

"You look at the students, and over 63 percent of the students said they preferred that security personnel be police officers," said Jean. "When you look at the employee response, it is different from the students', but it is proportionately very close ... of faculty, 67.8 percent want police officers. That's much in agreement."

The task force will come to an agreement and make a written recommendation to Serrano, who will then advise the Kern Community College District Board of Trustees in making a final decision.

The task force has looked at concerns about the safety of stu
See SURVEY, page 6

Faculty criticize cheer squad for wet T-shirt event

BY MELISSA DABRUSHMAN
Rip staff writer

Bakersfield College's cheer team has done it all—topless events, wet T-shirt car washes, and now—nude house cleaning?

"Actually, we plan to simply provide spring cleaning for a fee, no nudity," said BC cheerleader Jenny Hatzman.

Although it seems like the cheer team has done it all and then some, it's only the catchy advertising gimmicks they use which are naughty.

"For the topless car wash we recently did, we were fully clothed, but the catch was that we only washed the bottom of the car," said cheerleader Kaycee Martin. "There was an extra charge to get the entire car washed."

But even though the only "bad" thing the cheer team is doing lies within the catchy advertising, some BC faculty members disagree with the cheerleader's latest advertising gimmick, a "wet T-shirt car wash," where the cheerleaders will in fact be using T-shirts to clean the cars, but they will remain dry.

"I don't agree with the way the cheerleaders advertised this car wash," said Joyce Kirst, learning disability coordinator and High Tech Center specialist, in response to the flier she received, announcing the car wash. "I was appalled when I heard about it. It's exploiting."

Kirst is one of several faculty members who have sent e-mails back and forth on the matter for the past week.

"If (the cheerleaders) want to advertise a car wash, that's perfectly fine," she said. "But they don't need to go with a sexually explicit kind of implication in their advertising. Bakersfield College is an educational institution, and that was my issue with this whole car wash thing."

Hatzman pointed out that catchy advertising is key to raising money for the squad. More than \$7,000 is needed to cover traveling expenses and uniforms for next year.

See WET T-SHIRT, page 6

Up in SMOKE



Right, Kern County Fire Captain Greg Black, left, is assisted by Cadet Cody Wright as they extinguish an attic fire. Below, cadets observe the behavior of the fire as the last flames burn out.

MICHAEL D. ROSS / THE RIP



MICHAEL D. ROSS / THE RIP

BC Fire Academy practices burning the house down.

BY MICHAEL D. ROSS
Managing Editor

When the Bakersfield College Fire Academy cadets are together, they don't just bring the house down, they burn it down.

The academy did just that when it met at 9 a.m. Sunday at an abandoned house on the Occidental oilfield to observe a house fire and to give cadets a chance to practice their firefighting skills.

"You can have all the book work you want, but the real thing will teach you all that and more in a fraction of the time," said Cadet Matt Wiggins.

Cadets were led into the building by instructors in groups of three squads with approximately four cadets in each squad. Inside, one squad was responsible for fire attack, another for backup and the last for ventilation. Another squad was positioned outside for additional ventilation if necessary. The two remaining groups would rest and cool off before rotating back in.

Inside, cribs, or planted stacks of wood with paper and kindling were ignited in corners of a room to show cadets how fire runs up a wall and rolls across the ceiling.

"When we were down on the floor level, we could see really well," said Shawn White, academy leader. "You couldn't really stand up because the heat would push you back down, but if you did stand up, then it was really hard to see. You could actually see a perfect layer of black smoke pushing down."

According to Captain Jerry Gambill, academy coordinator and captain with the Bakersfield Fire Department, the cadets were exposed to approximately 400 to 500 degree temperatures inside the building.

To protect themselves from the heat, cadets and instructors wore self-contained breathing apparatuses, turnout coats and pants, helmets, steel-toed and steel-shanked boots, gloves and flame retardant hoods.

After each demonstration, the cadets and instructors put out the fire before the fire could reach flashover, when all combustibles in the room ignite. After the last rotation, however, the building was left ablaze and was burnt to the ground. Gambill said temperatures inside the building would reach more than 2,000 degrees during this stage.

To prepare for Sunday's demonstration, the academy met Saturday to bulldoze the area around the house

and control burn nearby grass and sagebrush to prevent the fire from spreading. The house was stripped of all carpet, plastic, wall coverings and other hydrocarbon releasing materials, since hydrocarbons have been linked to cancer.

In addition to Saturday's preparation, Gambill said releases had to be obtained from the Air Quality Board and asbestos tests performed. He said the academy had been working on procuring and preparing the building for burning since January. Occidental Oil had wanted to demolish the building and the academy needed a building to burn.

"It's a win-win situation," said Gambill. "It benefits them (Occidental Oil) because they don't have to pay as much in trash fees. Obviously ashes don't take up any garbage space at all, so it benefits both of us."

Poet Heather McHugh combines humor, life experiences during reading

BY MERI RENEE LOPEZ
Special to The Rip

The aroma of coffee wafted through the air as the Fireside Room was transformed into a faux coffee shop while students and teachers packed the room to listen to a reading by poet Heather McHugh Monday night.

About 100 people came to listen to the poet read her works. English professor Dr. Karen Tepfer introduced McHugh.

McHugh, who is traveling through California promoting her latest book, "Hinge and Sign: Poems 1968-1994," remarked on her vision of Bakersfield.

"I've never been to Bakersfield ... and I love it," she said. "I knew it was going to be the Buffalo of California."

McHugh began her first reading by dedicating her first poem to Tepfer and Tepfer's son Max. It was entitled "Shades."

"When they walk down the street in their shades together, they are the coolest duo I've seen. In their matching shades," she said.

She intertwined her life experiences between her poetry reading. She talked about her travels throughout the United States, her Bulgarian husband and his daughter, anagrams, love, sex, fame and her days in parochial school.

For her second poem, "The Size of Spokane," McHugh shoved her balled fist and index finger into the air in karate chop movements. Her sharp gestures complemented her voice. She also gave funny anecdotes relating to her poetry that left the audience chuckling often.

"I have this anal bug...it's the closest grammarian in me or something. There is some nice city-loving thing in me that wants to distinguish among epigrams, epigrams and epitaphs which most poets don't bother to do," she

said, introducing her third reading "Past all understanding" by Ezra Pound.

"Epigrams is a writing at the top of the piece of work; epitaph is at the top of a piece of work, but the piece of work is the dead guy underground so keep that in mind, and an epigram is just a witty short little thing."

McHugh's fourth reading was "an intellectual sex poem."

She listed the three books most stolen from libraries before her poem.

"There's a little known fact among librarians that the three books most stolen from public libraries are 'The G.E.D. cram book,' 'The Prophecies of Nostradamus' and 'The Joy of Sex.' I'm not sure what that means but it does mean I make my sex poems more intellectualized because clearly people want to get ahead. They don't just want to make out, they want to make-up."

McHugh talked about her relation-

ship with her step-daughter.

"I got a step-daughter ready made with my husband. It saved me nine months of labor and a few years of fighting. She was beautiful, gorgeously made so there was lots of love trouble and I thought how to be a good step-mother, because I skipped all the other stuff."

Bakersfield College student Corey Smith commented on McHugh's style.

"It was good. She's pretty funny. It was worthwhile," said Smith, an English major. "It was good to hear someone fresh."

Student Carrie Wight expressed her interest in McHugh's poetry, but commented on the nature of her work.

"I liked it ... but some of it was a little over my head. I thought she had some great thoughts. She's obviously very intelligent and I was very impressed."



KRIS DALE / THE RIP

McHugh read poetry in the Fireside Room Monday.

DECEIVING for DOLLARS

College cheerleaders advertise wet T-shirt car wash in hopes of attracting customers.

BY NICHOLE PERRY
Rip staff writer

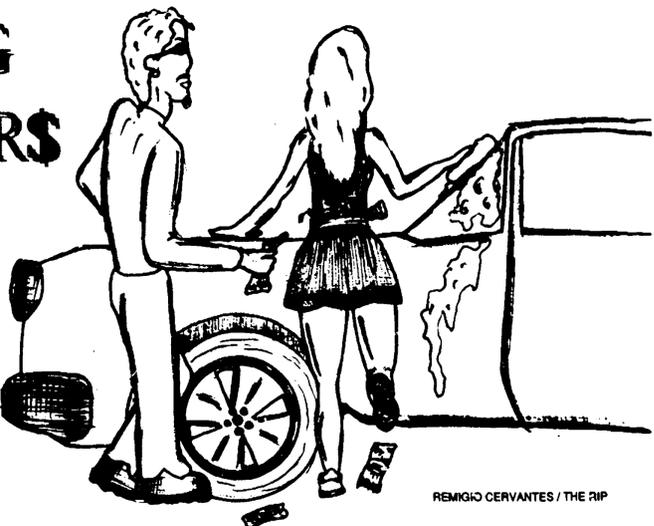
Sex sells. It's a plain and simple part of life. Allude to tits and ass and there is money to be made. So what better way to make a profit off of being a woman than to sell your talent at face value?

The members of the Bakersfield College cheerleading squad, driven to earning their uniforms from the sweat of their very own plucked and powdered brows, have begun advertising the event of the summer: a wet T-shirt car wash.

But hold on to your Birkenstocks and picket signs. It's not what it seems. The squad may be trying its hand at the art of sex in advertising, but in a round about way.

We're not talking about nipples and sneak away dirt and grime. I've always said women have two gifts they bring into a man's world: sex and cunning. When sex becomes passé, there's always feminine deception.

peaks. This car wash involves using T-shirts to wash away dirt and grime. I've always said women have two gifts they bring into a man's world: sex and cunning. When sex becomes passé, there's always feminine



REMIGIO CERVANTES / THE RIP

deception. OK, so maybe it is buying in to the media hype of booty and boobie, but sometimes a woman has to do what a woman has to do.

I can hear the letters to the editor now. As a female writer, it is my duty to all womankind to stop the perpetuated role of male dominance in society.

And yes, I must admit, at first I took immediate offense to this act of deception and cunning. But then I got to thinking and reverted back to the age-old adage even I subscribe to: Women sometimes have to use means otherwise unacceptable.

When we get to the root of the problem, it does boil

down to the male-dominated society we live in and the means to which women must resort. The football team does not have to earn money for its uniforms because it raises enough funds each season to more than cover their expenses.

Instead, it is the spirited women who spend their time striving for athletic excellence only to be overlooked in the athletic scope of things and praised merely for the ability to wear a short skirt and put a foot behind their head.

So yeah, I say more power to you. If it takes the false representation of titties to get some piggish dolts to come to a car wash, so be it.

Keith Panglitan
BC Student

Student blasts Rip editor in chief

Dear Mr. Lawlor,
How old are you? Are you under 25? Listen, you so-called editor in chief, I just hate reading retarded articles about

Letter to the Editor

"richard"-shaped monoliths and why television sucks. I'm just surprised at the fact you guys actually won awards for this B.S. that serves as a good waste of ink and paper.

The reason why TV sucks is 'cause we dumbass viewers replace them into sitcoms like "Family Matters" and "Full House" with "shockumentaries" ("Real TV," "World's Scariest Police Chases," "7 Central Thursdays on FOX") and "The Jerry Springer Show," which is on weekdays at 4 p.m. and again at 10 p.m. on KUVI-TV-45!

Quit your whining you little punk, and study for your finals. Then read a book or something. If you have to watch TV, go watch a little Jerry, or some fine professional wrestling, perhaps. If you don't have satellite or cable, you can always tune in to Univision, Channel 39, featuring "Sábado Gigante," the longest running TV program on the air! Or how about Channel 49, good wholesome, Christian TV? It has "Dobie Gillis!" What about PAX TV, Channel 61? It has "Touched by an Angel" and "Eight is Enough." If you love music videos, then c'mon, tune in to Channel 52, "Música Mágica Teve!" featuring your favorite artists like Enrique Iglesias, Marco Antonio Solís, Los Tigres del Norte, and much more!

This is a recovering couch potato, saying, "You suck!"

Another example of the poor man's penance fueled by the phantom menace. You could also chalk up the Littleton tragedy as another phantom menace. It's a good cop-out you see, because nothing else can logically or otherwise explain the actions of these spoiled and demented little brats unless you attended or saw footage of the violence summit the U.S. government recently sponsored. These perennial wise guys have deduced that entertainment is the not-so-phantom menace that is responsible for America's disturbing trend towards violence. I wonder if these guys saw "In Love and War" and were then motivated to head to Kosovo? Probably not.

I'm going to get to my point really soon, so bear with me. The real phantom menace is the advertising campaign that will be attached to our brains for the next 15 light years thanks to a consortium of retailers and fast food houses.

See MENACE, page 6

Rip presents awards to BC headliners

As the last weeks of the academic school year come to a close, we look back and reflect on another eventful year at Bakersfield College.

From bomb threats to teacher protests to wet T-shirt car washes, the 1998-1999 school year proved to be as odd and unusual as any year at good ol' BC.

Keeping in tradition, *The Renegade Rip* has bestowed dubious honors to those at BC who made these past two semesters so memorable. Thus, we proudly present the Rip Awards.

To the retired Chancellor Dr. Jim Young, we give the "Erectile Projectile Award" for the phallic rock that sits in front of the Campus Center lobby.

Young was astute enough to coax donations of various-shaped rocks to the school in order to decorate the campus.

While it's the thought that counts, you can't help but wonder what he was thinking when he erected the huge, almost shrinelike boulder. Freudian slip, um, well...

To the Board of Trustees we bestow the "Kevin Costner Award," for its decision to sink \$12 million into the renovation of Memorial Stadium.

Check the scenario: Trustees are standing on the 50-yard line, they look to the east and from the steep embankment emerge former BC football greats, a la Shoeless Joe Jackson in "Field of Dreams." "If you renovate it, they will come," whispers the ghostlike figures. Well, maybe they will.

However, considering that empty seats at Renegade home games this year were easier to find than Jewel concert tickets, you start to wonder why we needed to remodel a replica of the Coliseum in our own backyard.

The women's tennis team earns the "Miss Congeniality Award." After having one of their best seasons in recent memory, the team decided to bow out disgracefully.

They managed to alienate the star player Diana Besenthal, 41, to the point that she quit the team right before playoffs. Why did the squad despise her so adamantly? Too bad for the team as it ended its season in a loss at the state semi-finals. Advantage, Golden Girls.

The "Calling Card Award" goes to the anonymous handful of would-be unambassadors that spent the majority of their time this year calling in bomb threats to BC operators presumably from those high priced, Pacific Bell pay phones. With their new calling

cards, they receive up to 30 free minutes. With the average bomb call clocking in at less than two minutes, that's enough for up to 15 phony threats! And as if the deal wasn't sweet enough, they can earn frequent flyer miles every time they use their calling cards.

Hey, phone in enough threats and maybe one day the anonymous callers can board a flight to some God-awful country like Lebanon or Pakistan and see how this bomb thing is really done.

The "Vu Road Show Award," is presented to the BC cheerleading squad. After announcing a "wet T-shirt" car wash, the girls received quite a reaction from the concerned faculty members on campus. Oh, come now, pull your minds out of the gutter.

Those crazy cheerleaders weren't actually going to don soaked, see-through white T-shirts akin to those sported in nearly every bikini, skin-flic shown on Cinemax at midnight.

Rather, the girls plan to wash cars using wet T-shirts as sponges. Oh, we get it. What a clever idea. Imply sex and exhibitionism to make money. What a revelation. Hmmm, wonder why somebody didn't think of that earlier?

OK, this next one is almost more embarrassing than it is laughable. To the designers of the new class catalogue we give the "Strike a Pose Award." At the beginnings of different sections of the catalogue (English, Communications, etc.) we find that laughable, affable friend posing in various cornball positions. Who is this lovable character you ask? Why it's everyone's favorite, foam-filled, bean bag inspired mascot — the Renegade Knight.

What's so great about this thing? It resembles one of those Lego characters that came along with a school mascot. And check out page 177, the beginning of the mathematics section. What is that pose supposed to mean? Apparently another math genius in the making.

Finally, we won't spare ourselves. *The Rip* is no stranger to mistakes and surely we haven't gone through the year without a few errors. However, we did manage to do a pretty good job at catching the majority of spelling and punctuation miscues throughout the year.

So, we give ourselves the "Kopee Editing Uphard" for exhibiting abilities to catch all the miss-spellings and inproper granur in the nusepaper. Farewell, until next semester.

THE RENEGADE RIP

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Winner of the 1997 JACC Pacemaker Award

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'GADE FEEDBACK

Are you in favor of the BC cheerleaders holding a wet T-shirt fund-raiser?

Jacide Romine, Liberal Arts: "No. They are reinforcing all of the stereotypes about cheerleaders."

Kristen Matsumura, Undecided: "No. It is so tacky."

Floyd Newsome, Liberal Arts: "Yes they should. It will attract customers."

Stephanie Franco, Psychology: "No. I think it is tasteless."

Jesus Luna, Liberal Arts: "Yes. If they have something to show they might as well show it."

Menacing movie toys haunt country

Something seemingly ominous is lurking around every corner. I can't quite put my finger on it, but I can almost feel it breathing down my neck. It seems to be a "Phantom Menace" of some sort.

Frankly Speaking

FRANCIS C. MAYER
Rip Staff Writer

Another example of the poor man's penance fueled by the phantom menace. You could also chalk up the Littleton tragedy as another phantom menace. It's a good cop-out you see, because nothing else can logically or otherwise explain the actions of these spoiled and demented little brats unless you attended or saw footage of the violence summit the U.S. government recently sponsored. These perennial wise guys have deduced that entertainment is the not-so-phantom menace that is responsible for America's disturbing trend towards violence. I wonder if these guys saw "In Love and War" and were then motivated to head to Kosovo? Probably not.

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See MENACE, page 6

As my years progressed, so did

Eating disorders prevalent among young women

Specialist warns anorexia, bulimia can prove deadly.

BY MELISSA DABRUSHMAN
Rip staff writer

This is an illness like no other. For those suffering from an eating disorder, primarily anorexia nervosa or bulimia, daily habits can be destructive.

"Ninety percent of eating disorder cases in this nation are those of women, but male cases are being reported with ever-increasing frequency," said Cheriann Bridges, a Psychologist with Kern Psychological Services here in Bakersfield.

"What is so different about this disorder is that it can't be caught easily... it's almost like an 'underground disease.' It's compulsive, almost like alcoholism, yet not recognizable early on," she said.

Anorexia nervosa is self-induced starvation, brought on by an intense, persistent fear of gaining weight. This can lead to abnormal weight loss, hair loss, dehydration and malnutrition.

"It all starts when a person with anorexic tendencies develops beliefs

that center around her body and weight. Psychologically, these patients suffer intense depression, shame, guilt, and mood swings," she said.

Bulimia is characterized by recurring periods of binge eating, during which a large number of calories are consumed. Frequently, the binges are followed by purging through self-induced vomiting, abuse of laxatives, or periods of fasting.

"These diseases are really self-induced," Bridges said. "Unlike other sicknesses, the victims make themselves believe that eating is bad and are convinced that the binge/purge cycle is the only way out besides starving themselves to a whole."

"My mother suffered from an eating disorder," said Holly Granger, a third-year BC student. "She was bulimic for most of 1995, when there was that Kate Moss thin fad going on. She didn't even admit she had a disorder until after six months, when she was severely depressed."

Granger said. "Her moods really got to my family... and she really never wanted us around anyway."

"She finally agreed to see my therapist in L.A. in 1996. Since then, mom has led a normal life and her weight has remained stable."

ages advised that a good therapist, friends, and self-help groups can all aid in helping victims of eating disorders.

"This disease is especially alarming because Anorexia can be fatal," Bridges said. "People need to realize that this is not just a 'fad' that can be outgrown. It's a serious matter."

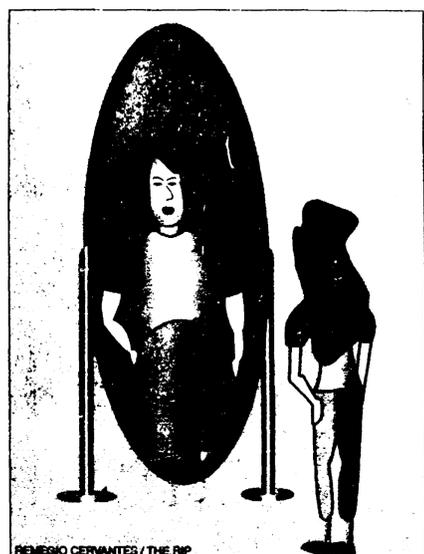
This is true of popular singer Karen Carpenter. Her death at age 32 was attributed to heart failure, following her eight-year battle with anorexia.

"There are at least eight million victims in this country alone, and of these, six percent die," Bridges said.

"Unfortunately, there is no direct way to cure it. The most effective recovery route is therapy. There are many different kinds, including individual therapy, group therapy, family therapy, or meetings with a dietician to develop healthy eating habits," she said.

This problem is not too big in Bakersfield, but it does exist. There is a significant increase in the number of 30 to 40-year-old women with the disorder here locally," she said.

"There is a myth that this disorder is really limited to teenage girls, but that isn't true. Men, women, people of all ages... it is a scary thing."



REMIGIO CERVANTES / THE RIP

Student recounts battle with anorexia as she reconciles self-image

BY MERI RENEE LOPEZ
Special to The Rip

I'm not sure when it really hit me that I had a problem. I do know it started at the age of 12. I remember watching a movie on cable and thinking, "If only I could be as skinny as her." Quite ironic actually, considering that at my age, I was barely 5 feet tall and weighed only 90 pounds.

But when I looked at myself in the mirror all I saw was a chubby little girl staring back.

As my years progressed, so did

my need to reach my desired goal, which wasn't a number on the registered scales, but a mental image of how thin I should be. I became fanatical about losing weight. I started adding rigorous exercise that left me winded and eating little.

When I did eat, it was in secrecy. Sometimes I would use little tricks to make it seem as if I was eating, such as pushing the food around on my plate. I would take a bite and spit the food into my napkin, or hide biscuits and crackers in my pocket so I could eat them late at night with nothing but a glass of water.

One afternoon I happen to see a mini-documentary on HBO about a young girl with an eating disorder. That's when I first took notice of a new method to rid myself of food: throwing up. It made perfect sense to me. Nevermind that the girl in the TV show had suffered a heart attack; she was able to lose her weight. One

night after dinner, I excused myself into the bathroom (which became my haven, where I would stare endlessly into the mirror looking for fat), stuck my finger down my throat and threw up. It was the most awful feeling in the world. As horrible as it is to throw up on your own, forcing yourself is a much more gruesome feeling. But I was proud of the fact that I rid myself of my dinner and continued to do this after most of my meals.

I never noticed the connection between eating and feeling weak and tired all the time. My habits were as natural to me as brushing my hair in the morning. All of this, and I was only 14.

In high school, I sprouted to my current height, 5'4" and was barely breaking 100 pounds. I had given up "purging" my food in place of an early morning gym class.

My lowest moment happened during my second year of college. I had focused my weight-loss goal on a new method: Dexamtrium. I was dangerously thin, weighing in at 93 pounds. It became apparent that I was suffering from anorexia nervosa—the least common type of eating disorder among females.

My parents, worried that I was putting my life in danger, sent me to an eating-disorder specialist, but I never saw my disorder as a problem. When those around me would remark on my stature, I would gloat knowing that my tricks were working. The more people were disturbed by what I was doing, the better I thought I looked.

Then I snapped into reality, realizing that I was truly sick and suffering. I noticed how my mom and dad, brother and friends and most of all my boyfriend were all worried and concerned about my health. It took nine years of starving myself, bingeing and purging, obsessively

exercising and using diet pills to realize what exactly I had been doing to myself. Now, I look forward to riding myself of this and regaining control of my life. While I thought anorexia would give me control over my life and my body, I now realize that I was the one being controlled.

Recognizing that one has a problem and readily admitting it is only the first step. I can say now that I am an anorexic and seek help for my troubles, yet I find myself counting calories in my head and obsessing over every thing I eat.

I still struggle with the demands of having anorexia and urge anyone whose experiences sound similar to seek help.

For more information about eating disorders, call the Eating Disorders Awareness and Prevention Information Line at 1-800-931-2237, or Overeaters Anonymous at 872-7528.

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Friday, May 21
8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Monday-Wednesday, May 24 - 26
8 a.m. - 3 p.m. & 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 27
8 a.m. - Noon

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Thursday, May 20 & Friday, May 21
All sites OPEN

Monday, May 24
All sites OPEN/ Food Carts CLOSED

Tuesday, May 25
Food Court a.m./p.m. & Carts CLOSED
Staff Dining Room OPEN
Panorama Grill OPEN until 6 p.m.

Wednesday, May 26
Food Court a.m./p.m., Staff Dining, Carts CLOSED
Panorama Grill OPEN until 3 p.m.

Thursday, May 27 — All sites CLOSED
Honor Brunch and Commencements

Friday, May 28
All sites CLOSED
Staff Dining Room, Honor Coffee Bar 7-9 a.m.

June 1-4 & June 7-10
Honor Coffee Bar - 7 a.m.-9 a.m.
Food Line - 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

The Panorama Grill will be open during Summer School beginning June 14.



KRIS DALE / THE RIP

Celebration of Heritage

The call for unity never had such effect in the Mexican history as it did on Cinco de Mayo in 1862 when a crowd of natives at a great disadvantage to the French military decided to fight together and eventually defeat their foreign invaders.

Cinco de Mayo became a celebration which bears little significance for the Mexican nation, but has great meaning for the Chicano and Mexican-American community. The connection is strong because the Chicano community, as well as the Mexican-American community, have joined forces to gain importance in American society. The Chicano voice could only be heard when hand by hand, people gathered and fought together for their rights. The only difference between the Battle of Puebla in 1862 and the Chicano Movement is that one was violently fought while the other is still being waged in a passive, more peaceful manner.

way of preserving united forces among a community, a nation and a community that wants to be looked at with respect.

The Battle of Puebla became a true proof of the power of joining together for the same cause.

It is not that defeating the French became more important than becoming an independent nation, but the fact that the battle was fought against the strong, the rich and powerful and that the poor, unprepared, and greatly disadvantaged managed victory.

This year at Bakersfield College, Cinco de Mayo celebrations reached an all-time high as Campus Center became host to a number of events including folkloric dancing, mariachi music, guest speakers and a pinata for children from Loma Linda Preschool.

Rip photographers captured the images on this page during the day-long celebration.

— Rosario Ortiz, The Rip



KRIS DALE / THE RIP



KRIS DALE / THE RIP

Top left, Loma Linda preschoolers watch Cinco de Mayo festivities in Campus Center. Top right, Christian Garcia dances with Grupo Folklorico Alegria en el Valle, which performed in front of the Campus Center stage. Above, Jorge Luis Laris, 11, belts out a tune as Andres Picasso cheers him on. Both are members of

Mariachi San Marco, which performed on the Campus Center stage. Middle right, Johnny Ramirez hangs a pinata over a tree branch for children from Loma Linda preschool to break open. Right, Yessica Chavez, 4, of Loma Linda Preschool takes a swing at the pinata near the Free Speech Area.



MIKE CUNNINGHAM / THE RIP



REBECCA PIMENTA / THE RIP

Myers drives past the rest of the field

Student becomes third BC golfer in 30 years to reach state playoffs.

BY JOE SIMPSON
Rip staff writer

Bakersfield College boasts one of the state's best community college golfers.

Collin Myers, 18, has only been golfing for about six and a half years. In that short time he has excelled in the game. "I've been coaching here for years, and he's one of the best I've had," explained Bill Nelson, BC golf coach.

Myers played in the junior college regional conference two weeks ago. The match took place at the Rio Bravo Country Club. He shot a 76 to wrap up third place in the match.

From there he went to the state championship Conference and was only the third person from BC in the past 30 years to do so. The state conference took place in Sacramento on Monday. He shot a 79.76 in the meet.

"I had to leave early so I don't know exactly where I placed, but I was somewhere in the middle," Myers said. "There's always next year."

Myers is a first-year student here at BC. He hasn't declared a major yet, but he does know what he wants to do with his life after graduation.

"I want to play professional golf," he said. "If not a pro, I'd like to work at the golf course, as a resident pro."

For now, he works at the Bakersfield Country Club cleaning golf clubs and helping out in the pro shop.

"My favorite course to play on is the Valencia Country Club," Myers said.



ROBERT TAYLOR / THE RIP

Freshman Collin Myers pauses on the first tee at the Bakersfield Country Club.

Track and field goes to state

BY KRISTEN HUNTER
Rip staff writer

The Bakersfield College track and field team will be well represented it is sending five women and eight men to the California Community College Championships today and Saturday at the City College of San Francisco.

These athletes had to finish in the top six in field and distance events or the top four in the running events last Saturday, May 8, at the SoCal regionals at Mt. San Antonio College to qualify. At the SoCal regionals, the women's team finished sixth with 55 points while the men's team finished fourth with 61 1/2.

Marnie Perry, thrower, had a fourth place finish in the discus with 131-6 and the hammer with a 140-11. She also placed sixth in the shot put with 39-9 1/2 to qualify in all three events. The top thrower for the women was Amanda Harvey who earned a third place finish in the shot put with 41-11 1/2. Tracy Bowling was a double qualifier with a fourth place finish in the 1,500-meters with a time of 4:54.93 and a fifth place finish in the 5,000 with a time of 18:43.25. Bowling also qualified for the 10,000 earlier this month.

For the men's team it was Kevin Carter, who came close to winning a regional title with a second place finish in the 400-meter intermediate hurdles with a time of 51.29 seconds, a personal best. Long Beach City's David Warren edged out Carter with a time of 50.86 seconds. Also qualifying in the 400-meter intermediate relay was Nick Ray, who finished with a time of 53.41 seconds. The men's 1,600-meter relay team of Nathan Higgins, Sedrick Ashley, Carter and Nick Ray finished fourth with a time of 3:13.79 to qualify for state.

Sophomore Mike Rexroth finished fifth in the hammer with a personal best of 165-11 and tied for third in the discus with 161-1. Eric Augular was a double qualifier with a fifth place finish in the 5,000 with a time of 15:25.78 and the 10,000 with a time of 32:29.96.

After these impressive results the women's coach Pam Kelley said her team should fare well at the state championships.

"They should do OK. Typically the south is better than the north so we should do well," said Kelley.

Softball team slides into state playoffs this weekend

BY BRIANNA CHAMBERS
Rip staff writer

The Bakersfield College women's softball team hit the beach Thursday for the playoffs.

The team left Thursday to play second seed Long Beach City College (45-2) on Friday.

BC did not play LBCC this season but head coach Sandy Taylor said they are a fast team.

"Traditionally, they are a fast team. They like to play the short game which means a lot of bunting."

This is Taylor's sixth year in postseason play and she is not worried about LBCC being seeded second.

"I have had years when we were seeded high and done bad. And I have had years where we were seeded low and done well, so it doesn't make a difference. It is how you approach the game mentally," Taylor said.

Playoffs are set-up differently in softball. There are four mini-tourna-

ments going on in Southern California and four in Northern California. BC is in a bracket with seventh seed Victor Valley (23-16-1) and tenth seed Riverside (26-18).

If BC wins at noon today, they will play 4 p.m. If they lose, they will play at 10 a.m. Saturday.

The softball team is a young team with only four sophomores. "When asked about the importance of sophomore leadership, Taylor said, "That is going to be big, especially with Tracy [Hilvers]. If she is nervous, then everyone else will be nervous."

Center fielder CeCe Guerra agreed with the importance of sophomore leadership.

"They have stepped up all year, but this is playoffs and they will need to step up even more."

But sophomore leadership is not the only thing they will need to be successful in playoffs.

"We are going to have to be dedicated, disciplined and get the job

done," Guerra said. "We need to be ready for the short game and work hard."

This season has been filled with adversity all year along with many untimely injuries.

"We have had a lot of illnesses and injuries. There has only been a few games when we have had our original line-up," Taylor said.

BC's only pitcher, sophomore Hilvers, broke her thumb on March 5 after getting hit by a pitch.

"My thumb is healing and getting better now," Hilvers said.

With all the injuries, BC still produced some fine athletes. Hilvers was named most valuable pitcher in the Western State Conference and was an All-State selection.

Left fielder Valerie Rodriguez, catcher CeCe Gonzalez and Guerra were named Western State Conference First-Team. Second baseman Mindi Grider and shortstop Brooke Hamilton were named honorable men-



ROBERT TAYLOR / THE RIP

Valerie Rodriguez takes a cut at a home game.

Attention High School Students

High school students can learn writing, Internet, photo and computer skills during a **free** three-week Bakersfield College summer class offered **June 14 - July 1**

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WHAT'S HAPPENING WHERE & WITH WHOM

Chicano theater class planned for fall

Bakersfield College will offer a new acting class in Chicano theater this fall. Julio Gonzalez will offer the class on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:30 to 1:50 p.m. in Speech Arts and Music 107. Gonzalez has worked extensively with Luis Valdez, the founder and director of El Teatro Campesino. The Teatro is known world-wide for its compelling performances. No previous theater experience is necessary. All cultures are welcome. The class will be conducted in English. For more information, contact Gonzalez at 721-9523 or the Chicano Cultural Center at 394-4532.

Singers to perform concert Sunday

Bakersfield College Chorale Singers will present "A Celebration of Spring" at 7 p.m. Sunday at Bakersfield Christian Life Center, First Baptist Church, 5500 Olive Drive. The program will feature "Gypsy Songs" by Brahms plus a selection of folksongs, spirituals and art songs by students. Bakersfield College Chorale was asked to perform at the California Music Educators Convention in March, and last month received two standing ovations for its performance at California State Poly Technic University San Luis Obispo Center for the Performing Arts. Tickets are \$7 general admission and \$4 for students, senior citizens and BC employees. High school choir students will be admitted free of charge. For more information call 395-4547.

Students complete child care academy

Twenty-one students will be qualified for jobs in child care centers when they complete the Bakersfield College Child Care Employment Readiness Academy later this month. BC's Family and Consumer Education Division will celebrate the students' completion of the program with a ceremony at 6 p.m. Monday, May 24 in the Fireside Room in the Campus Center. The semester-length academy combines classroom instruction in child development and academic skills with on-the-job training in BC child care centers.



TOP TEN THINGS DUMB GUYS LOOK FOR IN A CAR

10. Dashboard Sturpee machine.
 9. Car horn that plays theme from "The Rockford Files."
 8. Warning on cigarette lighter which reads: "Do not place on tongue."
 7. Anti-lock locks.
 6. Side view mirror with reminder: "Objects in mirror are reflections of actual real-life objects, genius."
 5. Aero to 5.8 in 60 seconds.
 4. Enough trunk space to hold hundreds upon hundreds of wrestling magazines.
 3. Secret compartment in center of steering wheel for storing Camels.
 2. I don't know what the hell rack and pinion is, but give me all that you got.
 1. A glove compartment that don't take a genius to open.
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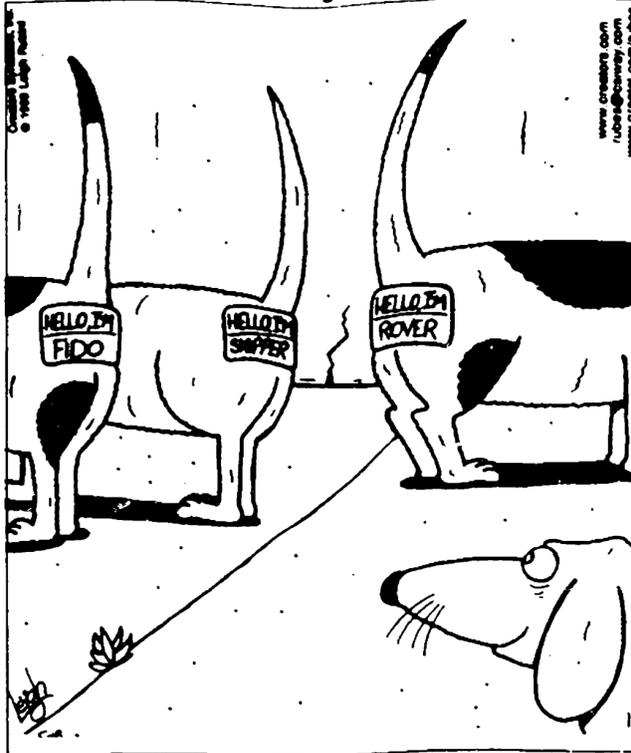
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Rubes By Leigh Ruben



Canine mixers

WET T-SHIRT: Teachers disagree with advertising

Continued from Page 1
But Dr. Peggy DeStefano, director of criminal justice, agrees with Kirst. "It's so passé, the whole idea," she said. "I am really surprised. This whole thing has the appearance of impropriety that has long since been left in the dust. This is one of the things that are just no longer appropriate for fun or profit here at BC. "Wet T-shirts, slave auctions, all those things that used to be big deals at college campuses have, over the past 25 years, been looked at with a more critical eye, with a more sensitive eye," DeStefano said. "What we are doing is realizing, acknowledging and admitting that these kinds of things are just no longer appropriate." DeStefano went on to say the advertising was not dignified, and that it was thoughtless. Bart Andrus, director of student activities, backs the cheerleaders 100 percent.

"I didn't have a problem with it," he said. "This is college, not high school. Nobody tries to go in and tell the teachers what they can teach. I didn't see anything wrong with it." Hatzman and Martin agree with Andrus. "We're in college, we're adults," Martin said. "We're all of age and we can take care of ourselves. In fact, no faculty even bothered to come to our coaches. We simply found out about it through Bart Andrus and the e-mails he got that say we're misrepresenting the school." Martin feels that the faculty has the right to voice their opinions. "I just feel that (the faculty) should have done some research first," she said. "And instead of slandering us, they should have researched it more and found out what was really behind it. A lot of people think it's a sexual innuendo, but I don't think it is."

SURVEY: Safety is issue

Continued from page 1
dents and staff and also has researched what would be least expensive for the college's strained budget, according to ASBC President Sean Miller, who is also a task force member. "I would think that the safety of the students should be a priority over finances here at the college," he said. "You're coming to college, and you should feel safe while you're on campus. If they are going to spend extra money to ensure the safety of the students, so be it. I think the college has the obligation of providing that for the students. They might go out and contract because it's cheaper, but it could come back and bite them on the ass."

The task force is leaning toward a switch to police officers, Jean said, noting that campus police is in "limbo." "They look like cops, but they're not. I think it's amazing that they haven't been hurt seriously before now." During the last three years, officers had three situations involving a gun, said Patrick Shaffer, a dean and chairman of the task force. Also, two 1998 laws mandate either a higher level of training for security forces or that they be POST (Police Officer Standards and Training) certified. The possibilities include a more highly trained in-house security force, a private security force or contracting with a department.

MENACE: 'Star Wars' is everywhere

Continued from page 3
Just this week I have been assaulted by "Star Wars" propaganda in the confines of my favorite late night haunt, Vons. Oversized images of the movie's heroes and villains appear throughout the store, suspended from the ceiling like piñatas. I felt like hitting them. When I came home and turned on my only true friend, the television, I was instantly betrayed. Another stupid "Star Wars" commercial, and this one was innovative. An Axis Powers-like arrangement has been made by Taco Bell. Pizza Hut and Kentucky Fried Chicken with the respective mascots of each eatery represented in an old convertible flying off into space to the "Star Wars" theme. I want to enjoy this "movie-merchandising event of the century" but between the summit's warnings of entertainment provoking violence and my own impending psychosis induced by image overload, I will politely decline. Besides, this time around there will be no swashbuckling Han Solo to make me feel like there is one non-sellout left in the galaxy.

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