



Sweet Dixie
Country sensations Dixie Chicks thrill the crowd at Centennial Garden.
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Writers debate pro and con of censoring public school literature.
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'Gades prepare for Grossmont rematch at Saturday's annual Potato Bowl.
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THE RENEGADE RIP

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Bakersfield College

December 1, 2000

Union questions timing of contract settlement

BY RACHEL CRIBBS
Opinion Editor

After months of negotiations, the teachers in the Kern Community College District and the district Board of Trustees reached a tentative agreement in early October.

Included in the contract is a large pay raise for teachers. The suddenness with which district officials agreed to the contract left faculty wondering why, after so many months of discussion, the district abruptly settled.

Shortly after the board agreed to the contract, the KCCD was audited

by the state. The state found the district had broken the law by underpaying faculty for a number of years.

Faculty union president Dr. John Gerhold believes there is a connection between the audit and the contract agreement.

"This was not a coincidence. The two were definitely related," he said. "If the district agreed, then they would look less bad to the state. They didn't want to be out of compliance for three years in a row. They could be sued by the faculty, so they had to make up with the faculty before (the audit) broke," said Gerhold.

Dr. Walter Packard, chancellor of the district, maintains the contract had nothing to do with the audit.

"There was no connection between the two," he said. "We had been negotiating for over a year and I knew the audit was going on. But it didn't affect what I was doing."

Kern is one of at least six community college districts that has not been living up to a state law requiring that at least half of their education budgets go to salaries for classroom teachers.

The law was designed to help keep administrative costs under control.

"When we were audited, the state did not allow some excluded items," said Dr. Charles Hanson, assistant chancellor of business services. "We went from being over 50 percent to under. We made some mistakes in categorizing things. We couldn't substantiate some of our entries."

The auditor's study said that while the KCCD reported to the chancellor's office that it spent 50.65 percent of its educational budget on teacher pay in 1998-99, the percentage was actually 43.21.

To combat the low status, the KCCD has worked to cut spending through current contract agreement

and to pay teachers well.

"We are putting more money into instruction and less money for extras, like software and utilities," said Hanson. "We are trying to do the best we can. We went from a \$3.7 million deficit to a \$2.6 million deficit for 1999-2000."

The teachers' salaries will be boosted to the state average level, which will help bring the KCCD in compliance with the 50 percent law.

At the board meeting Thursday, board members were expected to approve the contract as well as consider Hanson's request for an exemption from the 50 percent law

for this year.

"We granted sizable increases in salaries, about six million dollars. That increase amounts to six million and it will bring us closer to 50 percent," said Hanson.

"It was a wise choice to agree to the contract, but it didn't fix the underlying problems," said Gerhold. "The labor issue is settled but it does not excuse them. They made the only wise choice in their position."

Gerhold said the district has handled the situation well, but he maintains the only way to really get the KCCD in compliance with the

See CONTRACT, Page 6

Is there an end?

Students tire of presidential election stalemate, confusion.

BY PATRICIA PINEDA
Rip staff writer

With the spotlight on the state of Florida and the ballot hand counts, frustration grows among Bush and Gore supporters around the country.

While Bakersfield College students also feel strongly that their candidates should win, a large group just want a president to be named, no matter who it is.

Student Jennifer Wooster voted Republican and said the hand counts are not necessary, but the Gore camp is upset that they are behind in votes.

"I think it's stupid. They gave the ballot to second graders and they were able to vote right. I think it's because Gore is all upset because he is not winning, he had to bring in lawyers," said Wooster.

She also worries that the image of the United States as a world power has been damaged because of the problems with the election.

"Right now Russia is laughing at us and to have a third world country laugh at us, really is bad," she said.

On the other hand, BC student Jesus Gomez voted for Al Gore and is not concerned. He said there is still time to allow the hand counts to continue.

"Nothing is messed up. We still have a president and nothing is going to be affected until next year," Gomez said.

Student Bobby Martinez said he voted for Green Party candidate Ralph Nader because he supported the legalization of marijuana, but believes Bush should be given the victory at this point.

"They should just get this settled real quick and give it to Bush. It doesn't matter to me, neither one of them is better, it's just because he is winning right now," said Martinez.

Regardless of who wins in this unique election, the attention that has been placed on the importance for every American to

See ELECTION, Page 6



ARON VIETTI / THE RIP

Pottery in Motion

Meshell Maring creates a bowl as part of her ceramics class on campus. Bowls, vases and pots will be on sale at the semi-annual Ceramics & Glass Sale Monday and Tuesday in the Fireside Room. The sale starts at 10 a.m.



JOSE PIMENTEL / THE RIP

Repair crews worked throughout the holiday weekend to return heat to Campus Center after a water line broke.

Line break leaves campus in the cold

BY JARROD GRAHAM
Features Editor

A hot water line breakage is what caused a loss of heat on the north side of the Campus Center last Monday, according to Eric Mittlestead, director of maintenance and operations for Bakersfield College.

The heating outage affected the entire north side of Campus Center, including the Student Activities office, ASBC Executive Board Room, EOP&S and *The Renegade Rip* offices.

"We were real fortunate as far as a breakdown can go," Mittlestead said, noting that the pipe broke between Campus Center's air handlers. Similar to the radiator of a car, air handlers consist of large fans and coils through which hot water is circulated, with the fans blowing over the coils to produce heat.

"The Campus Center has two air handlers: one for the food service side — the south side — and for you guys on the north side," Mittlestead explained. "The way the piping loop

is laid out, it goes through the bottom basement of the Campus Center and then up towards (the north side), and it broke between those two, so we had some valves that we could isolate just (the north) half."

Mittlestead also said that if the break had occurred elsewhere on campus, the heating outage could have possibly affected the entire campus.

Maintenance workers returned to work after the Thanksgiving holiday and worked through the weekend to repair the water line and get the heat up and running again, finally completing repairs around noon Saturday.

Mittlestead estimates the cost of the repairs to be in the range of \$5,000.

Once the heat was shut off last Monday morning, space heaters were brought into various Campus Center offices.

The space heaters caused a power surge last Tuesday, shorting out on *Rip* computer, which is now undergoing repairs.

Students complain about crowded computer lab in library commons

BY HENRY FRANCO
Rip staff writer

Bakersfield College students who use the computer commons have been frustrated by a recent lack of availability of computers in the morning hours.

"There should be a time limit. They should only let (students) have no more than an hour," said Lucy Ortiz, BC student.

Ortiz believes that students play a big role in computer availability in the commons, located in the first floor of the library.

"When you go to the computer lab, people are just online, on the Internet. They're not even doing homework. They're just messing around. They're checking their mail or whatever," she said. "They should also open up the room in the lab with all the computers. There's like 50 computers in there. BC should get more computers, but where would they put them?"

Student Sandra Richards said she once had to wait for an hour for a computer at 11 a.m.

"I finally gave up and left and came back later. The afternoon wasn't as bad," she said. "I don't go there in the morning anymore, especially when I'm in a hurry."

Richards said there are too many computers out of service in the commons.

"You think there is a computer free and then you look at it and there is a sign that it doesn't work."

— Sandra Richards, BC student

"They should fix all the computers that are down. You think there is a computer free and then you look at it and there is a sign that it doesn't work," she said.

But not everyone is unhappy about availability. Student Shelby Wade said "I'm spoiled and I have my own computer at home. I don't need their computers."

BC student Carly Allenson said she only waits a few minutes for a computer in the morning hours.

"Usually like five minutes; at the most. I don't think it's that big of a deal, having to wait a few minutes. I always jump in the chair right away as soon as somebody leaves."

Computer technician Douglas Burloch believes there is room for change in the computer lab.

"There is some software that isn't working. Some of the pods need improvement," he said. "Some of the chats don't work. But everything experimental is at the cost of students. Sometimes improvement screws everything

up. But there are a lot of problems that don't get resolved."

Dr. Greg Chamberlain, dean for learning resources and information technology, agrees there is a slight wait for computers in the morning hours.

"I believe that some students may not be able to get on a computer right away between nine and twelve. But in the afternoons, there is very good availability," he said. "There's computers available evenings, Saturdays and Sundays. If you were to contact other colleges I think you would find the actual availability for students for use is actually quite good."

Chamberlain said there are many reasons for the out-of-service computers.

"We're shorthanded, and not enough technical support. We're also dealing with computers out there that were put in when this building (the library) was built," he said. "So we're talking about five-year-old computers in a heavy use area. So, personally, I think we're going to see more breakdowns coming this year. We're going to be doing something to address that issue."

Students are once again paying to print in the computer commons, following the transition period for the new GADES card. Chamberlain said that before students began paying for their own printing, printing cost the college more than \$40,000 a year.



RONNIE WILSON / THE RIP

Students complain that the commons become packed during morning hours.

Controversy over banned books heats up



JOHN RIEL / THE RIP

Public schools should be sensitive in literature selection

PRO
Beverly Saunders
Campus Editor

I am consistently amazed when I hear someone say, "Oh no, we should never censor books!" Yeah right, let's not censor books and allow Playboy magazines and books describing how to build a better bomb into our public schools. To not censor books would be an act of ignorance.

Because we have our highly treasured First Amendment, guaranteeing freedom of the press, we must honestly acknowledge that everything written is not appropriate for our public schools.

We must accept the responsibility of being gatekeepers who carefully

and respectfully choose books for our schools. Look at Kern County. Our residents are Hispanic, African-American, Caucasian, Asian, Native Americans and more. We are Catholics, Baptists, atheists, New Agers, Moslems, Methodists, Hindus, and more. All of this diversity in our country and we have one public school system.

It is because of our First Amendment and our diversity that we must continue censoring public school books. However, we must add another criteria to our standard: We must only select books that show respect for our children's diverse ethnicity.

"The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" does not fit the criteria. "You ought to be ashamed of yourself to stand by and hear it saddled onto a lot of poor niggers and you never say a word for 'em."

The point of view expressed by Mark Twain's character encourages name-calling and racist positioning.

things we don't want in our schools. In Harriet Beecher Stowe's book, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," a slave owner orders, "Now Jim, show this gentleman how you can dance and sing." The boy commenced one of those wild, grotesque songs common among the Negroes. Stowe's point of view is both insulting and demeaning to many of our students.

Books portraying African-American males as ignorant clowns do not belong in our schools. Ernest Hemingway, along with other "literary folks," love these kinds of books.

However their opinion is not what is at issue here. Our number one concern must be our children. Before we bring any book into the classroom we must ask, does it enhance all of our children's self-esteem? If the answer is no, then we must refuse the book entrance. Some may argue, what's the big deal? Lots of books have ignorant clowns like Caucasian males in them.

The difference is this, there are a wide variety of Caucasian characters in books, movies and on TV shows, from Superman who fights for truth, justice and the American way to "Father Knows Best."

This is not the way African-Americans are depicted. There is no balance. This imbalance is unhealthy. A survey published in Journalism Quarterly found that in a test group of 316 white fourth, sixth, and eighth graders in California and Michigan, 69 percent believed that blacks on TV were realistic and accurate. More than one half of Caucasian children tested believed fictional characters are realistic. It's not right and it certainly isn't healthy, but it is true.

So let's accept our responsibility to both educate and protect our children and continue carefully selecting books appropriate for our public schools, while refusing entrance to books that do not show respect for all of our children's ethnicity.

Challenged books provide valuable lessons for life

CON
Rachel Cribbs
Opinion Editor

For generations, many different kinds of people have attempted to censor literature that conflicts with their own beliefs.

Even here in America, where our rights are "preserved," books have been seized from library shelves, hidden away and even denied access into our country. The First Amendment states, "Congress shall make no law ... abridging the freedom of speech or of the press."

However, that very "unalienable" right has been constantly taken away by fanatic groups who wish to "save" their children from the smut in books. Who elected these activist groups to be the saviors of the rest of us? Who are you to decide what another person can and cannot read?

Books are written for us to respond to and to make us think. Books are not evil, and they certainly do not have evil in them.

Books have valuable life lessons woven into fantastic tales of real life. The authors of censored books meant for their material to be read and the reader to form an opinion.

Ray Bradbury's "Fahrenheit 451" was written about the future of our country if we banned books. Our people will become TV dependent drones with no real knowledge.

Do you really want to be a product of society for the rest of your life because you are too offended by books?

Books are supposed to offend you. Books are supposed to make you cry, smile, get angry.

Books are meant to make you want to take action. Books make you think.

Oh no! Wait, you mean I will think if I read? Well, we can't have that! What will the world be like if the masses actually formed opinions and began thinking?

Now, some fanatic parents would argue that this material is too "racy and obscene" for their child. They don't want "lewd, indecent and filthy" literature in their children's hands. Well, that's

fine, but do you also not want well-adjusted, thoughtful children? If our children do not read about Holden Caulfield's problems in "The Catcher in the Rye" they are doomed to find out about these problems themselves.

If our children do not read about rape in "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings," they will remain naive about those situations and stumble into one.

If our children do not read "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" and "Uncle Tom's Cabin" they will never know how life really was in the racist South.

Do you honestly want your child to suffer like these characters did? Every upcoming generation should be showered with these wonderful books and encouraged to read them.

No matter how hard you try to contain the knowledge of a person, you will never win. "Life breaks free."

Why not turn off the TV and show your children real life? Real life can be found in these amazing books.

Even now in the 21st century, books are being challenged. Harry Potter books are being censored because they deal with wizardry and magic. Wow, some people have certainly lost their imaginations.

Censorship is a cowardly solution to something with which you do not agree. One offensive book to you might be a life changer for someone else.

Censorship is done by the fearful, reading is done by the fearless.

Don't be afraid of a new idea, or something that might offend you. You never know what will offend you until you have read it.

So, break free! Read at least one book that has ever been banned or censored.

The more people we can get to discover the deep impact and amazing worlds these books have to offer the better. Then we will truly regain our First Amendment rights.

Chicks bring 'Dixie' to Bakersfield

BY VANESSA BOUTWELL
Rip staff writer

Natalie Maines, Martie Seidel and Emily Robison rocked out the Centennial Garden as the Dixie Chicks Monday.

The concert began with a grand start when "Nathan" from "The Real World Seattle" pumped up the audience. Souvenirs were thrown in all directions and the roar of the audience shouting "Dixie Chicks!" was amazing. It was a packed night for the Centennial Garden.

Curtains went up and the Dixie Chicks were on stage. The crowd stood with ear-piercing screams, and the action of the concert was so intense that you couldn't help but join the audience.

The three girls began the fun with "Ready to Run," where Seidel showed her overwhelming talents as a fiddler.

All three looked adorable as always. Seidel announced that lead vocalist Maines had "been knocked up." Maines' image changed with a bigger belly and brown hair. The Chicks were proud to say she was having a boy.

Maines' belly did stand out, but so did the concert, because these chicks put on an awesome show. When "Cold Day in July" was played, snow fell from above. The stars and moon came out when the last song, "Wide Open Spaces," was performed. The audience's faces



RONNIE WILSON / THE RIP

Dixie Chick Martie Seidel fiddled her heart out at the Centennial Garden Monday.

glowed with excitement.

Besides singing, these three chicks sure do know how to make you laugh. The lovely girls' "ugly" baby pictures showed on the screens in front of the audience.

Maines backed her ugly pictures up by telling the audience not to laugh, because "you were ugly at one time or the other." When these three girls made fun of each other's looks, the crowd went wild.

The trio created more comedy by making a movie to go with their song "Goodbye Earl." Before the movie, the group disappeared and the crowd chanted their name. They appeared on the top level, singing "Goodbye Earl"

to the seat you wish you didn't have.

Their second album's hit song, "Cowboy Take Me Away," was played while the crowd sang away. What the group described as their "attempt to entertain you" succeeded.

The only negative point of the concert was the rude lady behind me shouting, "Sit down, sit down!" Oh, and the crowd leaving the concert was an overall nightmare.

Other than that, I suggest that all Dixie Chicks fans try to see one of their concerts, because this one was a hit.

'Unbreakable' breaks the box office, but cracks at the end

BY BRYAN SWAIM
Editor in Chief

Classic films are always hard to live up to. Tarantino couldn't do it. Neither has Danny Boyle, the director of "Trainspotting."

Now we have M. Night Shyamalan's "Unbreakable," the follow-up to last year's big sleeper "The Sixth Sense." Did his new thriller have audiences at the edge of their seat like his last film? Not even close.

"Unbreakable" begins with the birth of a child. The child is crying loudly, and the mother asks the doctor what's wrong. The doctor's reply, "His arms and legs are broken."

The child is Elijah Price (Samuel L. Jackson). He has a rare bone disease where minor falls will cause his bones to fracture. He is breakable.

Cut to David Dunne (Bruce Willis) sitting on a train. The train gets into a horrible wreck after derailing. Everyone is killed but Dunne, who walks away



PHOTO COURTESY OF TOUCHSTONE PICTURES

Samuel L. Jackson (left) and Bruce Willis (center) star in the new movie "Unbreakable," directed by M. Night Shyamalan.

without a scratch on him. How was he able to walk away? With the help of Jackson's character, he begins to contemplate his whole life. Had he ever been sick? How about injured?

The acting is excellent and it is surprising to see a film so subtle in the way it develops its characters, almost like a Hitchcock film.

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'GADE FEEDBACK

THOMAS OSLANO / THE RIP

If you could have any super power what would you want? Why?

Erik Gifford, Speech Communications: "Invisibility, so I could listen in on other people's conversations without them knowing."

Cecilia Martinez, Nursing: "X-ray vision so I could see through clothes."

Juan Gutierrez, Criminal Justice: "Invincibility, to be unstoppable."

Pioesline Santillan, Communications: "Super strength, so I wouldn't have to depend on other people to do things for me."

Terry Cranfill, Psychology: "Mind reading, to truly understand people."

SPARKING *their* INTEREST

BC students learn job skills, variety of welding techniques, as part of certificate program.

The Bakersfield College welding program has been around about 45 years. About 150 students in the program learn welding processes that are commercially used locally and all over the country.

The students start with gas welding, cutting, shielded metal arc welding, mig welding and tig welding. Next they learn various types of certification welding, which will help students go out and get the jobs.

There are different certificate programs, depending on what classes are taken. It is also possible to receive an associate's degree in welding if students take additional general education courses.

After finishing the program, students can compete for internships, which are set up with local companies. Students work for the companies while they're still taking the welding courses, which gives them the best training.

Businesses are always calling for welders. While some students choose internships, other students finish the courses and find their own jobs. And other students take one or two courses at night just to upgrade their skills to receive higher pay.

Photos and story by
Jose Pimentel / The Rip



Far Left: A welder's helmet and gloves are some of the protective gear used by the students.

Left: Wally Gonzales welds a toolbox for a friend.

Above: A cutting torch machine cuts a piece of metal for a student's project.

Below: Igniting a cutting torch, Vincente Luna prepares to work on a project.



Left: Jeremy Pickett, left, and Jackie Rueda, right, cuts through the metal using cutting torches.

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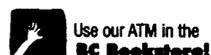
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Will BC mash Griffins in Spud Bowl?

BY LEANNE CAVE
Sports Editor

The 49th Annual Kern Shriners Potato Bowl at Memorial Stadium Saturday at 1:15 p.m. promises to be an exciting rematch between the Bakersfield College Renegades, who are ranked No. 1 in the Southern California power ratings, and the No. 2 rated Grossmont Griffins.

The 'Gades escaped with a 15-10 preseason victory over visiting Grossmont when Griffin quarterback Clint Womack's pass fell just short of a receiver in the end zone with seconds left on the clock.

Head coach Dave Jordan said it hasn't been hard to get his players motivated for the rematch.

"The players were hoping to get a rematch with Bakersfield," said Jordan. "We are focused and we are very excited to be here. We have a great quarterback and great receivers. We are looking forward to playing Bakersfield and we have great respect for their program. It will be a challenge."

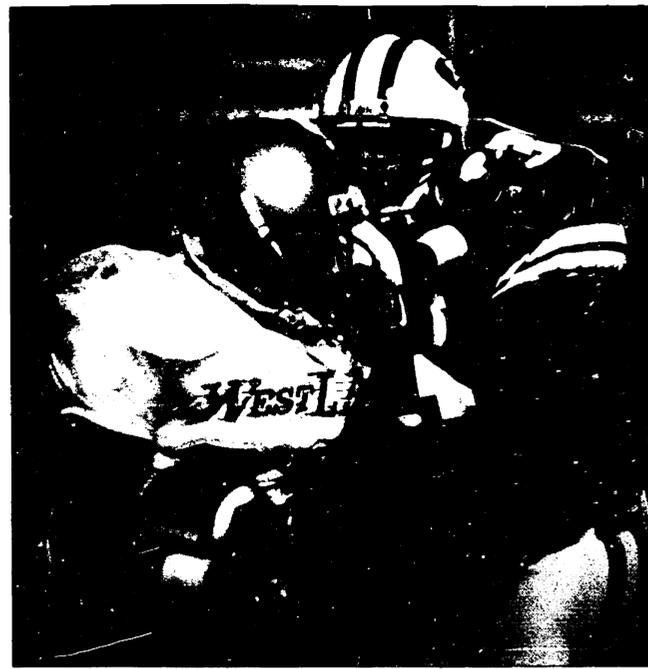
Those sentiments of wanting the rematch have been echoed from 'Gade players. Trevor Lancaster, kicker for BC, said he hoped that they could play Grossmont.

"They are the best we have played this season," he said. While the true victors of the Potato Bowl will be the children who are helped by the proceeds that go to the Shriners Hospitals, the fans who attend will certainly be able to enjoy the atmosphere. The Shriners' parade, which is scheduled to begin at about 12:15 p.m., will present the Potato Bowl queen as well as some insight into the good work that the Shriners offer to children in hospitals around the world.

"If the fans will attend, it's like going to the Rose Bowl," said Kern Shriners' public relations chairman Curt Clipperton. "It's really intimidating for visiting teams to come into a stadium like Memorial Stadium when it's full of cheering fans. It's rewarding for the home team. And of course, the children benefit from the proceeds."

Tickets will be available at the gate for \$12. With the 'Gades having the No. 1 power rating in Southern California, it has already been determined, whether they win or lose in the Potato Bowl, that they will play in the state title game in Visalia Dec. 9 against the San Francisco-Fresno City winner.

Tickets for the state championship game will be sold at the Potato Bowl and on campus at the Business Office.



Renegade defensive lineman Darren Carr attempts to stop an Oiler advance.

JOHN AMUNDSEN / THE RIP

Slick Renegade team effort slaughters West L.A. Oilers, 61-6

BY LEANNE CAVE
Sports Editor

It was celebration time for the Bakersfield College football team Nov. 17 after they drilled the West L.A. Oilers 61-6, leaving them dry before 3,304 fans. It was only appropriate that potatoes were being passed around at Memorial Stadium, since the next game for the 'Gades would be the 49th Annual Potato Bowl.

It was mass production for the 'Gade offense as they put up 24 points on the board

in the first quarter and 23 in the second to lead at the half 47-0.

Trevor Lancaster got things started with a 47-yard field goal. BC quarterback Jason Ghilarducci added to the scoreboard when he produced a 6-yard TD to Ryan Backes to give BC a 10-0 lead.

Enter defense. It didn't take long for the secondary to start its assault as Michael Hall, who leads the team with seven interceptions, picked off an Oiler pass and returned it 38 yards to make the score 17-0.

"It always feels good to put points on the board," said Hall.

Sammy Moore then set up the next score as he took the next Oiler punt and returned it to the Oiler 10-yard line. Josh Lopes then scored on a 3-yard run as the first quarter ran out.

Then Ghilarducci added insult to injury as he bombed West L.A. with a 96-yard strike to Sammy Moore and a two-point conversion, making the score 32-0 early in the second.

With the BC defense not allowing any

kind of production from the Oiler offense, it was three downs and punt or turnovers most of the night for West L.A.

West L.A. did manage to get some points on the board when quarterback Richard Spears threw a 14-yard TD pass to Devin Houston with 5:24 left in the game, but it was against reserve players who were substituted late in the game. The conversion failed.

BC offensive coach Brent Damron said, "It was a great all-around performance for the team."

Promising runner returns to track team

BY PATRICIA PINEDA
Rip staff writer

Casey Holman impressed many last year with an outstanding first year in track and field.

"Casey ran the quarter for us last year. It was really her first year running track and she finished fourth in Southern California and eighth in the state, which was quite an accomplishment for somebody just coming out," said Pamela Kelley, head coach of women's track and field.

Holman, 19, didn't always like the idea of running in Bakersfield.

"I didn't want to because I thought they were crazy. It's so hot. I do it to keep in shape and to get letter," she said.

This semester she is taking 12 units at BC and works in the athletics secretary's office.

With much of her time being occupied with studying, work and practice, Holman finds she doesn't have the time for much more.

"I spend a lot of time at home studying, or I'll be here (athletics office) until about 2 o'clock and then I run and get ready for practice. I'll be at practice until about 4:30 p.m. or 5 p.m.," said Holman. "This week I have two tests I'll be studying for and there is a wrestling match I want to watch. I don't have time for much more."

When she does find some time for herself, Holman enjoys shopping or watching sports on television, she said.

"Casey works really hard, she is responsible, she takes care of business in and out of the classroom," said Kelley.

A Bakersfield native, Holman said she hopes to transfer to a school on the East Coast and pursue a career in history or law.

With a 3.0 GPA, she expects to be finished at BC in the spring and although she is not sure where she will transfer to, she is confident she will accomplish her goals.

"We have a really great college. We have so many programs and everybody is so friendly, you can get anywhere from Bakersfield College," Holman said.

The last edition of
The Rip
for the Fall Semester
will be Friday,
December 8.

All letters to the
editor should be
submitted no later
than Monday,
December 4
at 5 p.m.

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Congratulations Irene Spencer On Your Retirement

After 19 years of service in what is now the Student Activities office, Irene's last day at BC will be December 15.

Please stop by the Student Activities office, Campus Center 4, to say good-bye and to thank Irene for her assistance, dedication and friendship on or before the 15th.

Some of Irene's many awards are:

- CSEA Employee of the year/1992
- Gene Howard award/1993
- Honorable Mention/BC Classified Employee of the year/1993-94 & 1999-00
- American Association of Women in Community Colleges Outstanding Service to Women award/1996-97
- Honorary lifetime membership to Phi Theta Kappa/1998
- Superintendent of Schools appreciation plaque for 12 years of outstanding service to the Young Leaders of America/2000

Irene, on behalf of the BC community, we wish you well.

—from your many friends and co-workers at BC

'GADE NEWSLINE

ASL holds Christmas bash today

The American Sign Language Department at Bakersfield College will hold a special Christmas party today at 7 p.m. in the BC cafeteria. "The First Sign of Christmas" will include holiday performances by deaf students from Eissler Elementary School, and the BC Sign Choir will present its rendition of "Silent Night" in sign language. Santa will hand out candy canes as children decorate a Christmas tree and participate in arts and crafts projects. In addition, partygoers can expect door prizes and plenty of cookies and punch. The cost is \$4 for adults and \$2 for children ages 3 to 12. Children 2 and under get in free. For more information, call 395-4278.

BC professor announces book signing

Donna Litherland, retired BC professor and counselor, will sign copies of her new book, "The Great Flood of California," at Russo's Books in the Marketplace in southwest Bakersfield on Dec. 16 from 1 to 4 p.m. The book was published this year. It combines elements of desolation, fantasy and personal discovery. The main character, Sallie, views the flood not as an act of destruction, but as a purifying change. Much of the novel is set in the area of Cayucos, Cambria and Morro Bay. Litherland admits spending much of her time in those communities and that drove her passion to write a book that focused on those locales. Litherland worked at BC for more than 23 years before she retired in 1991. Since that time she has written five books, including three fictional works and two books on speed reading.

Food donors can reduce library fines

The Bakersfield College Library will forgive \$1 of any student library fine for each food item donated in the library as part of the Inter-Club Council Food Drive. Students wishing to take advantage of this offer should drop off donated food items in the library through Dec. 15. Items will be collected and donated to needy Bakersfield residents.

New play presented by BC Theater

The Bakersfield College Theater Department presents "The Homecoming," this weekend in the BC Indoor Theater. The play is about an American university professor, Teddy, who brings his new wife, Ruth, to North London to meet his dysfunctional family. Unfortunately for Teddy, his wife appears to fit right in. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$5 for students and senior citizens. For information, call the BC Ticket Office at 661-395-4326. — Compiled by Vanessa Boutwell and Yuka Utsunomiya Rip staff writers

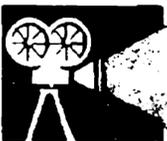
CRIME BEAT

Golf cart used in BC break-in

At approximately 3 p.m. on Nov. 19, an assistant baseball coach reported to campus police that someone had gained entry into the storage building at the baseball diamond. The suspects used a golf cart to back into the roll-up door several times. The door to the storage building was freshly painted. The scratch plate on the doorjamb was loose. The coach said the door was not damaged before the incident. The door will cost approximately \$3,000 to replace.

Fake repairman rips off computer

At approximately 3:30 p.m. on Nov. 14 a student noticed a man repairing the computer next to him in the computer commons. The man seemed a little nervous. The student said that he asked the repairman what he was doing with the computer. The suspect replied he was repairing it. He was wearing a black Chicago bulls jacket and a black Bulls hat. A teaching assistant asked the man what he was doing. He replied he was from Instructional Technology Service and came to repair the computer. The assistant called I.T.S. and discovered that no one worked for that department who matched the repairman's description, and that no one had called for a computer repair. The assistant went to check on the repairman and he was gone. He checked the computer and noticed that two memory sticks had been removed from the machine. — Compiled by Vanessa Boutwell Rip staff writer



MOVIE MINUTE

Dr. Seuss' classic story of "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" is a hilarious romp through the Ron Howard version of Whoville. Director Howard and Jim Carrey (the Grinch) are wowing audiences with their big screen adaptation of this timeless story.

Carrey gives an amazing performance as the Grinch. From his voice to his costume, Carrey is head-to-toe Grinch nastiness. From his perch atop Mount Crumpit, he lives the life of a vengeful recluse who hates Christmas. Carrey captures the emotions well while cracking side-splitting jokes.

An interesting thing Howard includes in the film is a flashback to when the Grinch actually lived in Whoville. This flashback details the reason why the Grinch hates Christmas as well as an unlikely love interest.

You will find yourself singing along with the adorable Whos as they sing the old familiar songs as well as some new ones.

This movie is certainly the crowning achievement in filmmaking this Christmas. If you only see one movie this season, see this one. You won't be sorry.

— By Rachel Cribbs
Opinion Editor



PHOTO COURTESY OF MELINDA SUE GORDON/ UNIVERSAL STUDIOS

The Grinch (Jim Carrey) and his dog Max masquerade as Santa and Rudolph as they race into Whoville.

Q&A with Dan Johnson

Dan Johnson is an instructor for BC's Applied Science and Technology Department. He teaches Auto Tech 12A, Auto Tech 74 and Auto Tech 112B. He also teaches Auto Tech 68, which is a race car construction engineer class for which he is trying to attract students for the spring semester.



Q: "What's the biggest mistake students have ever made working on a car?"

A: "Not tightening down the lug nuts. It caused the wheel to become very loose. Though the wheel did not fall off, the person driving the vehicle at the time sensed there was a problem, limped on home, took care of the problem by tightening the lugs down and then we corrected the damage to the wheel. The only damage done was the fraying of the driver's nerves and the unnerving of the students that failed to tighten the lug nuts down,

realizing what kind of damage, injury, that sort of thing could have occurred."

Q: "Why are you a car nut?"

A: "Initially it was just the adrenaline involved with going as fast as you can on anything. I think most males like to scare themselves a little bit, whether it's on a skateboard or a fast car or

anything in between.

"And the other thing was it was mechanic by necessity. My parents did not have new cars — they always had a couple of junkers around — and if I wanted to drive, I had to make sure they were driveable."

Q: "Are cars a great way to meet girls?"

A: "No. Cars are a terrible way to meet girls. If cars are your focus, you focus on the cars more than the girls."

"And the girls tend to become a lot more jealous of the car, than the car will become of the girl. So the car generally sticks around longer than the girl."

Q: "What's the most expensive car your students have ever worked on?"

A: "A fairly new Mercedes that belonged to one of the faculty. Either that or my own car, a Mitsubishi 3000VR4."

ELECTION: Students vent frustrations

Continued from Page 1
vote should greatly affect future elections.

Steve Holmes, political science professor, said that is the lesson to be learned from this election.

"Many individuals simply believe that their effort and thus their vote doesn't count," said Holmes.

"This is a classic example where that is potentially wrong," Holmes says there is a great potential for an increase in voter turnout as a result of this election.

"So hopefully this close election is going to reinvigorate Americans to understand that their vote will make a difference."

On Monday, after Florida certified that Bush had won and gave him its 25 electoral votes, some students agreed that Al Gore should concede.

"I think that Bush won Florida and we should just take it like that," said student David Villa.

Student Juan Gutierrez said that while he voted for Gore, he was sure that his vote made a difference.

"At first I was kind of upset because they had said Bush won, but after all the hand counts I think Gore should just leave it alone," he said.

CONTRACT: Timing

Continued from Page 1
50 percent law is to "hire more teachers and raise part time salaries."

"We are continuing to climb to 50 percent. We aren't there yet, but more money into classrooms and salaries will help," said Hanson.

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Bakersfield College Math/Science 50-51

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- Health Career Counseling
- Employment Opportunities
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- Meet Current Students for Nursing Skills Lab Tour
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For more information contact the Allied Health Division Office (MS 178) or Call 395-4281.

SOUND OFF Write a letter to the editor and drop it by The Rip Office in Campus Center 1 or e-mail: ripmail@bc.cc.ca.us

Include name and phone number for verification. All letters verified with photo I.D.

A Christmas In Kern

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Rough Riders
Local mountain bike club enjoys challenges of difficult terrain.

Features, Page 7

Majority Rules
Electoral College should be abolished before next presidential election.

Opinion, Page 3



Students interact with deaf community at annual ASL Christmas party.

News, Page 2



THE RENEGADE RIP

Vol. 71 No. 20

Bakersfield College

December 8, 2000

Cameras filmed students without their consent

BY MICHAEL D. ROSS
Online Editor

Although recent films like "Enemy of the State" have painted grim pictures of the government invading the public's privacy with hidden cameras, few would expect the issue to arise in their own backyard.

But hidden cameras can be found in many locations, including the Bakersfield College men's locker room.

The cameras were installed in 1994 during a period of locker room thefts and filmed students without their knowledge or consent. Carl Bowser, former athletic director, said that many valuables and large

amounts of cash were taken from lockers. He said that one student had his entire month's rent stolen.

"It was done for the benefit of the students," he said.

The men's athletic department decided that the best way to stop the thefts was to catch the perpetrators on film. A hidden camera system, costing roughly \$3,000, then was

installed in the men's locker room to document individuals entering and leaving the locker room. The cameras were in use for about three years, said Bowser.

"It timed them so we could check to see who was in there at that time."

The tapes were then collected by Bowser and reused when thefts did not occur.

"I basically held 90 percent of them," he said. "I didn't have any janitorial staff handling them. I handled them all myself."

Bowser said that the cameras were installed in locations that only captured individuals entering and leaving the locker room and that no nudity or sensitive material was captured on film. He also said that

cameras were only installed in the men's locker room and not the women's.

"We didn't have any thefts in the women's locker room," he said.

Briefly after the video system was installed, another theft took place. Bowser collected the tape and turned it over to the campus police. He said

See PRIVACY, Page 2



JOSE PIMENTEL / THE RIP

'Gades Triumph

Bakersfield College Renegades win 49th Annual Potato Bowl in a down-to-the-wire thriller against Grossmont College. For full coverage of the festivities as well as the game, see Sports, Page 4 and 5.

Students share different views on abortion pill

Some see RU-486 drug as alternative while others remain pro-life.

BY BEVERLY SAUNDERS
Campus Editor

In 1993, President Clinton promised America that the abortion pill mifepristone, RU-486, would be available for consumers coast to coast.

In October, more than 7 million abortions later, the Food and Drug Administration approved the sale of RU-486, making Clinton's promise come true.

"Virtually any family doctor or ob-gyn can now prescribe the two-drug regimen, provided he or she has some surgical back-up arrangement if it fails to end the pregnancy or if there are side effects," reported Time in its Oct. 9 issue.

It is legal. It is available. But are women willing to personally abort their own pregnancies?

"No I would never use it," said Tracy Wilson, liberal arts major. "I'm against abortion—period. I have three children of my own. My oldest son, age 3, has Down syndrome. I also have a set of identical twin boys. So I don't see any reason why a woman would have an abortion. And I don't see how women, who after having one child, can have an abortion after seeing how precious life really is."

But not all BC students expressed a pro-life stance. As a matter of fact, for the past seven years Americans have aborted pregnancies at the rate of five every two minutes, reported the Alan Guttmacher Institute, a private organization that studies reproductive health issues and considers abortion a suitable option.

"I'd use it if I found out that I was pregnant at his point in my life," said Stephanie Burl, nursing major. "I would take it because I wouldn't have to go through the actual abortion process. I wouldn't have to go to the clinic and put up with all the crap from all of the pro-lifers, and I couldn't do adoption because I don't want my bloodline out there for just anybody to raise. So yes, I'd take it. Time magazine reports Texas Gov. George

RU-486

- RU-486 has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration as an alternative to surgical termination.
- Patients must visit a physician three times to complete treatment.
- Side effects include bleeding, uterine cramping, abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea and headaches.

SOURCE: Serena Koenig, M.D., Harvard Medical School

MICHAEL D. ROSS / THE RIP

Bush saying, "I fear that making this abortion pill widespread will make abortions more and more common rather than more and more rare."

For nursing student Donnell Rasmussen, taking the abortion pill is something she would do.

"Right now I'm taking every possible precaution to not get pregnant," she said. "I don't want to be and I don't choose to be. If it would come down to that I just would. Right now I'm just not ready for it. And I feel that I couldn't give a child a good life. [And] people would say just have it and give it up for adoption, but I just couldn't do that, because my whole life I would know that I had a child out there and how do I know they are being taken care of properly?"

Debate team successful despite lack of funds

BY YUKA UTSUNOMIYA
Rip staff writer

The Bakersfield College Forensics Team is having a good semester.

"We took fourth place of our first tournament this year," said Helen Acosta, BC speech teacher, who works with the team along with BC instructor Mark Staller.

In the Raisin City Invitational Tournament, held at Fresno State University in September, Rudy Zaragozo won first place in novice poetry and in novice programmed oral interpretation; Melody York won first place in the junior programmed oral interpretation; and Terry Cranfill won third place in junior prose interpretation. Dave Billings, Dave Zaccaria and Robert Frank were quarterfinalists in the novice parliamentary debate.

Ben Sampson, Genine Stronach and Christine Stronach also represented BC.

At another tournament, the Lancer Invitational, one of the toughest competitions held at Pasadena City College in October, York won third place in persuasion; Cheryl McKinney was a finalist in persuasion; and Andrea Thorson won third place in programmed oral interpretation.

Sampson, Billings, Zaccaria, Frank and Christine Stronach attended as well.

The team is made up with students who are in the Speech B27 class, which has been one of the classes at BC since 1927.

They usually practice for a tournament all week to compete against community colleges as well as four-year universities. They sometimes meet people from UC Berkeley and CSU schools.

"So one of the advantages of competing in this level is that coaches from those four-year schools see our students and quite often recruit them for scholarships," said Acosta.

Anyone who has the willingness to compete or wish to become better speaker can be a member of the team, she said.

The class is open entry and open exit, so the teachers can sign up the students as long as they put in their time and meet the minimum standards, said Staller. He explained there are several ways for students to be involved in the team.

For example, there are some stu-

dents who want to go to all the tournaments, while others may be an audience in class time without going to any tournaments. They also have speech competitions held at BC where students in other speech classes can participate as well.

Occasionally, the team has difficulties recruiting students. Usually in high school, students are required to spend a great deal of time preparing for competition and have to pay their expenses to go to tournaments, Acosta said.

"We see very good students who competed at the high school level, who don't compete at the college level because of this assumption they make that it's just like high school."

— Helen Acosta, debate program adviser

cause of this assumption they make that it's just like high school," said Acosta. In fact, at the college level, there is more financial support from the school.

But officials still have to limit the number of students who go to the tournaments because the money the district provides isn't enough.

"Anyone can go to the tournament,

but because we have limited entry because we don't have lot of money, we only take who, we think, will do well in the tournament," Acosta said.

The budget the team receives each year is around \$9,000, according to Acosta. However, to go to the Raisin Invitational in Fresno, the cost was \$1,030, and for the Lancer Invitational at Pasadena, it was \$1,172, said Staller. He also estimated it might cost about \$1,500 to go to another tournament, the fall championship, held at CSU, Long Beach.

Right now, there are 18 students on the team, but only half of them attended the last two tournaments. The budget pays for entry fees, hotel rooms and some meal expenses.

Acosta explained that to raise money, the team used to sponsor a large high school speech tournament at BC, an event that sometimes raised up to \$4,000. But now the college charges for any use of facilities, so the tournament no longer is held.

Now the team goes to tournaments until its budget runs out, which usually happens in spring, said Staller.

"Then we have to go to administration, and say, 'Our budget is gone,'" said Staller.

He added that the school usually comes through for them.

"I'm really excited about the team we have this year," said Acosta.



ARON VIETTI / THE RIP

Tina Sizzles

Hip diva Tina Turner rocks Bakersfield on her "Twenty-Four/Seven" tour. See full review of her concert on Page 6



Renegade James McGill tackles a Griffin player during the Potato Bowl. JOHN AMUNDSEN / THE RIP

'Gades compete for state title

After Potato Bowl victory, BC heads to Visalia Saturday to tackle No. 1 team in the nation.

BY LEANNE CAVE
Sports Editor

The Bakersfield College Renegades will contend for the state championship when they face San Francisco City College 1 p.m. Saturday at the Mineral King Bowl in Visalia.

This season, BC has the power under the power points rating system. They were ranked No. 1 in Southern California going into the Potato Bowl game with Grossmont College.

The Potato Bowl victory ensured the state championship berth that BC (10-1) earned with wins over state powerhouses Butte and Grossmont in preseason, plus several Western State Conference opponents won bowl games.

However, the state championship game will be a tough test for the "Gades. Their opponent, San Francisco City College, is ranked No. 1 in the nation. They are big, tough and fast and heavily recruited by Division I schools.

"We will go to Visalia and give it our best shot," said head coach Dallas Grider. "Their defense is as good as their offense," he said. "They are very talented

and very balanced. They're awesome." The SF team is without a doubt the best the "Gades will face all season, but the Gades are excited about playing the high powered Rams.

BC running back, Josh Lopes, who hurt his ankle, said "I hope that I'm able to play. I want to play for state."

Gade quarterback Jason Ghilarducci said, "This will be the biggest game I've ever played in. We have to get ready."

The "Gades seemed ready after their second win of the season against a tough Grossmont team in the 49th Potato Bowl.

After the game, the thrill of victory was reflected on Randy Jordan's face as he stood beaming at the Most Valuable Player trophy that he was awarded when the "Gades beat the Griffins 22-17.

Jordan earned the MVP trophy because of his record-breaking 103-yard kick-off return for a touchdown.

The score put the "Gades back in the lead 9-7 after the Griffins had just scored on an impressive drive to make the score 7-2.

"I never thought I'd get the MVP award," said an elated Jordan. "It feels so great. I can't explain."

"We saw Randy Jordan in the (high-school) all-star game and knew he was a major talent," said Grider.

"He is in the top three on the team as far as speed is concerned. He is an added dimension to the team."

BC was well prepared as they tried

some new razzle-dazzle moves during the Potato Bowl, including a reverse and a faked punt, which earned first downs.

"In the big games you had better have some big plays," said Grider.

"We knew the special teams had to be the difference. They have been all year. The return by Jordan was set up in practice this week."

The flea-flicker was a 39-yard strike that resulted in a 1-yard touchdown run by Sam Campanella.

The painful defeat for Grossmont was evident. Griffin player Camille Gibson stated it best as he was walking back to the field house after the game.

"Five points again," said Gibson. "We played hard, but we didn't win."

For another Griffin player, Ben Howard, playing in the Potato Bowl meant a lot. "It's something I'll remember the rest of my life."

The Griffins did manage some shining moments on offense as running back Dewayne Neabors rushed for 126 yards, scored a touchdown and earned Offensive Most Valuable Player of the game.

The BC defense wreaked havoc on quarterback Clint Womack and the Griffin offense causing numerous sacks, fumbles and a timely interception by Michael Hall, which earned Hall the Defensive Most Valuable Player.

Grider summed up the victory for the "Gades. "It couldn't have happened to a bunch of nicer guys,"

Football legends urge youth players to work hard to be the best

BY RICHARD D. WHIPPLE
Rip staff writer

A couple of Notre Dame football legends visited Bakersfield during the first annual Golden Empire Youth Sports Banquet.

The event, held at the Bakersfield Convention Center, featured Joe Montana, the legendary quarterback who went on to fame with the NFL's San Francisco 49ers and Kansas City Chiefs after a stellar collegiate career for the Fighting Irish, and Rudy Ruttiger, the inspiration for the movie "Rudy."

Prior to giving their speeches, Ruttiger, who played college football in the '70s, fighting the odds against him because of his size and talent, and Montana, who went on to lead the 49ers to four Super Bowl titles, greeted the youth football players and their families in the convention

center's V.I.P. room, where they were able to interact with the two heroes.

For 13-year-old Garrett Sanford, meeting Joe Montana was a thrill. "It was pretty cool," said Sanford. "He makes me want to keep my grades up, so I can play college ball."

Stacie Herring, whose sons play football, echoed those sentiments. "They were so personable," she said. "Joe Montana, just being in this room with the greatest arm on earth, meant so much to my family. Rudy has taught my children not to give up, no matter what it costs. I heard that his speech is very dramatic. I'm interested to hear what he has to say."

After a brief introduction where local football players of the past were recognized for their contributions, the keynote speakers took the stage. Ruttiger opened and gave an energetic, dramatic speech. "Football is a great game," said

"He (Montana) never quit practicing. He kept dreaming. He practiced the little things. When his opportunity came, those little things came through."

—Rudy Ruttiger
football legend

Ruttiger. "I only played two years at Notre Dame and made one play, made one tackle, and then they made a movie. It just goes to show you don't have to be a star to be a star." Ruttiger also pointed out that Montana faced some of the same adversity that he experienced as well. "He was a seventh string

quarterback when he came to Notre Dame," said Ruttiger. "Joe had a dream. His dream kind of faded a little because it didn't look like he was going to be that NFL player he dreamt about when he was in high school."

He credits Montana for hanging in there. "He never quit practicing," he said. "He never quit preparing. He kept dreaming. He practiced the little things. When his opportunity came, those little things came through. Today, he's remembered because he practiced the little things."

It was doing the little things, according to Ruttiger, that enabled him to play for the Fighting Irish. Montana then took the stage. Like Ruttiger, he focused on working hard to be the best.

"To get anywhere in life, you have to want to be the best that you can be," said Montana. "You hear that team does not have an 'I' in it. I agree with that. But in a lot of cases, it starts with a 'U.' Because you have to put in the work, you have to show everyone that you're willing to be the best that you can be."

Montana then stressed the importance of preparation. "You all have to be ready for that one chance in your lifetime," he said. "Because in most cases, it doesn't come around again."

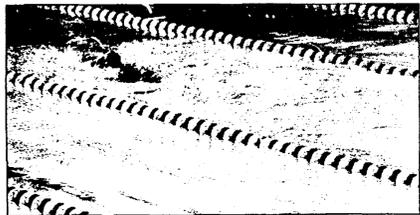
Unity is also a factor in success, said Montana. "When you look at the 49ers, there were a lot of great individuals playing for the good of the team," he said.

"They battered the team by being better individually. But you didn't see anyone out there saying 'I did this.' We had a lot of team unity."



BY JOSE PIMENTEL / THE RIP
Joe Montana speaks to young players at the Golden Empire Banquet.

Campus to start construction of 50-meter stainless steel swimming pool



A swimmer takes a backstroke lap in the BC pool. TODD E. SWENSON / THE RIP

BY PATRICIA PINEDA
Rip staff writer

Bakersfield College is building a new stainless steel pool and giving its 50-year old pool a face-lift.

The construction will begin soon after nearby roads have some preparation work done, said Jan Stuebbe, athletic director.

"We are going to start on the old pool in December, the pool will be done in May. The new pool construction will probably start in January, at the same time they will be working on the old pool and that

should be completed in August. "By August we should have a beautiful aquatic center," said Stuebbe.

This new addition to BC has been in the works for several years. The state provided \$750,000, to refurbish the existing pool. The cost will be covered by the assessment district taxes collected for campus renovations, including the stadium.

"We got some state money to refurbish the old, \$750,000 and we decided that if we could get some community funding we would have enough to renovate the old pool plus

build a new pool. "We got over \$900,000 from the community, through a couple of major sponsors, individuals sponsors and the Kern High School District. We have close to \$2 million and we are trying to raise another three or four hundred thousand," explained Stuebbe.

The new 50-meter pool will be only the second in Bakersfield. Currently the only 50-meter pool in town is at CSU, Bakersfield. BC's new pool will be constructed of stainless steel to lower maintenance costs, according to *The Californian*.

Apart from the inconvenience of an estimated nine months of construction, students will have to deal with the loss of some students parking spaces near the tennis courts and the old pool. Also, some of the swimming courses will be affected because there will be no usable pool from December through May of next year. "We are very excited about it, the community is very excited about it. It fills a definite need, so we are looking at it as a very positive addition to Bakersfield College," said Stuebbe.



Left: Shriner Paul Owens and Potato Bowl Queen Christina Tetrick enjoy the parade before the game Saturday at Memorial Stadium. The annual event is a "labor of love," say Shriners, because proceeds help crippled children and their families.

Below: Head coach Dallas Grider gives instructions to players during the game. In a close rematch, the Renegades beat the Grossmont Griffins 22-17.

Bottom left: Shriner carries a banner during the game parade.

Bottom right: Both teams gather after the game as the game trophy is awarded.

Photos by
John Amundsen /
The Rip



For Shriners, it's a game for the kids

Potato Bowl proceeds will provide free medical treatment for children across the nation.

BY HENRY FRANCO
Rip staff writer

Mac McMahon has been a member of the Kern County Shrine Club for 20 years. His business is helping youngsters in need.

"It's a labor of love. We work here because children need the money to be healed," he said.

Those were his sentiments about working at the 49th annual Potato Bowl last Saturday.

In a nail biter to the end, the

Bakersfield College Renegades emerged victorious over the Grossmont Griffins in a 22-17 win at this year's event.

But the real winners were the hundreds of thousands of disabled children across the nation.

All the proceeds from the event go to various Shriners Crippled Children's Hospitals, a move that shriner Joey Monroe said is necessary.

"A child, regardless of where he comes from, age, race or background, can get free treatment for a crippling disease. We try to reach out to all the communities to further the knowledge that kids have and the parents have to support the crippled," he said.

With 23 Shriners Hospitals and burn centers available across the country, parents with sick children can look to

them for help.

Childrer from California, New Mexico and Arizona are helped through a special hospital in Los Angeles, according to Lee Olson, general secretary of the scottish rite.

"In the last 10 years, something like 1,450 kids from this community have been sent to that hospital in Los Angeles," he said.

He also explained that their hospitals treat many low-income children. A budget of 585 million dollars a year makes it possible to help these children. "Anyone who goes there (the hospitals) does not pay a penny," Olson said.

"The families don't pay for lodging. They don't even pay for their bus tickets," Olson said.

Audience members who were

watching the game had high praise for the shriners.

Spectator Isaiah Patterson said, "Without them, all this couldn't have been possible." 12-year-old Nikki Anderson also lauded the shriners work.

"It's really good that they help kids my age. They're really nice people," she said.

Football fans were treated to a parade before the game that included bands from various junior high schools, little cars driven by shriners and a van filled with sick children from the Shriners hospitals.

Bakersfield resident Linda Padilla said she had never been to a BC football game before, but was glad she attended.

"I'm glad my money is going to help the kids, since my husband dragged me here today," she said.

"It's nice that they (the shriners) sponsor this every year."



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Turner, Cocker electrify crowd at the Garden

Rock heroes bring down the house during Turner's farewell tour.

BY RACHEL CRIBBS
Opinion Editor

If you have never seen Tina Turner in concert you have not lived. Turner and Joe Cocker rocked the Centennial Garden Sunday night when they teamed up for her Bakersfield appearance on her Twenty-Four/Seven tour.

Woodstock legend Cocker opened the concert to a full house of ex-hippies and young teeny boppers alike.

Cocker performed many of his memorable songs such as "Up Where We Belong" and "You Are So Beautiful To Me" to the cheering crowd.

Cocker's band was talented and animated, with two dancing back-up singers dancing and an extremely talented guitarist.

He also performed his signature

song, "A Little Help From My Friends," to a standing crowd. The first time he tried to leave the stage, the crowd stood and roared his name, giving him the first of two standing ovations.

Cocker certainly got the crowd ready for what was billed Turner's farewell tour with his powerful performance. Once the crowd let Cocker leave the stage, it took Turner's crew only 25 minutes to set up her stage.

Once those curtains parted to reveal Turner, she stood like a goddess between her five dancers and belted out "Higher."

She performed "River Deep, Mountain High," and of course "What's Love Got To Do With It." She even got the audience to cheer that famous line as loud as possible, with a cheering battle between men and women.

Turner's stage was futuristic-looking with three levels on which to dance.

Even though her five back-up singers/dancers looked sluttily in their costumes, they kept up with her energy with ease.



ARON VIETTI / THE RIP

Opening for Tina Turner, Joe Cocker belts out one of his hits during the concert.

Turner certainly knows how to entertain. She owned the stage all night. She exuded confidence and poise as well as grace. She kept moving the whole time. She was visible to all facets of the Garden, so the seat you had was the best one.

During the song, "We Don't Need Another Hero," Turner played scenes from her movie, "Mad Max Beyond Thunderdome," and wore the jacket she wore in the film.

Turner went through five costumes throughout her performance, each one perfectly Tina.

She opened the show in a tight leather pedal pusher outfit, but when she wore a short leather black halter top dress, you could definitely see why Turner, even at the age of 62, is known for her killer legs.

But the best part of the concert was at the end when Turner rose on a platform over the audience. The sea of fans went wild to have her 10 feet above their heads.

At the end of the night, she accepted flowers from fans and introduced her band. One of the best performers of our time, Turner spans the generations with her music and her energy.

She treats the audience as family and is unafraid to have fun with them. The Tina Turner concert will certainly be remembered in Bakersfield for years to come.



ARON VIETTI / THE RIP

Tina Turner interacts with the crowd as part of her Bakersfield concert. During the show, she was carried on a platform over the audience.

College band students march past BC

BY BEVERLY SAUNDERS
Campus Editor

Kern County residents love marching bands.

At 10 a.m. on Veterans Day, more than 1,300 junior high students slipped into uniforms, grasped their musical instruments in their hands and played a variety of songs while marching down L Street in Bakersfield's Veterans Day Parade.

Junior high students are not alone in their enthusiasm for joining their school's marching band. A phone survey conducted by *The Renegade Rip* found that approximately 1,000 local high school students are participating in marching bands as well.

That is about 2,300 regional students snapping into formation and playing music.

A high percentage of marching band participants go on to attend college, said Douglas Kelly.

Kelly, marching band director for



JOHN AMUNDSEN / THE RIP

The Highland High School Marching Band entertains the crowd at the Potato Bowl.

Centennial High School, said that 95 percent of his graduating band members attend college.

However, none of these students will be able to continue participating in a marching band if they choose to attend Bakersfield College.

In the fall of 1995, BC joined the ranks of the 107 other California community colleges that no longer support a marching band program,

said Dr. John Gerhold, division chairman of fine, performing and communication arts.

"It's happened to community colleges all over," he added.

Band performances under the director of music, professor Robert Martinez, were fun and unexpected, said Jan Stuebbe, BC director of athletics.

Lawry Heckman, marching band

director for Tevis Junior High, compared BC's old halftime performances to actual halftime shows.

"They were entertaining and creative. The football fans really enjoyed them," he said.

"I was involved with helping the band program when it stopped," added Heckman. "Kids out of high

See MARCHING, Page 8

Choir earns way to national convention

BY YUKA UTSUNOMIYA
Rip staff writer

The Bakersfield College Chorale and Chamber Singers will demonstrate their talented voices during a holiday concert at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 15, at St. Paul's Episcopal Church at 17th and B streets. General admission is \$10 and \$5 for students, seniors and children.

The concert will feature holiday music from around the world, according to Dr. Ronald M. Kean, choir director.

All concert proceeds will help pay for the singers to perform at a national choir event in March. The singers have been invited to perform at the National Convention of the American Choral Directors Association. BC is one of two community colleges invited to

attend the convention, which will feature 40 choirs.

Being selected to perform at the national convention is an honor, Kean said.

The music that will be performed at the holiday concert will feature music from Austria, Canada, England, France, Germany, Kenya, Nigeria, Spain and Renaissance Yugoslavia.

"Music is a window to be able to understand how each culture feels about their own music, hopefully," Kean said.

In addition to the concert, the singers are selling a new CD in the BC Bookstore that features their music. All proceeds from the sale of CDs, the group's third, will help pay for the trip as well. CDs cost \$15 each.

"This one is almost all Christmas (songs)," Kean said.



Left: Dale Walton rounds a corner on Oak-flat trail nearly 4,500 feet in elevation and barely escapes the treacherous boulders on this single track.

Below: A bike rests next to an elevation sign, while the rider enjoys a moment's rest before beginning the descent.

Center: Dale Walton cleans his brake line on the rim of his bike's rear tire to ensure proper functioning of his brakes.

Bottom Right: Two riders ride side by side on Cow-flat trail in the Kern River Canyon.

Photos and story by
Todd E. Swenson /
The Rip



Climbing to The Top

Mountain biking club encourages fun, fitness and safety.

Editor's Note: Todd E. Swenson is a member of the Southern Sierra Fat Tire Association. He was injured while covering a recent ride, but now is recovering from bruises and abrasions.

A sport among sports, mountain biking involves both athleticism and skill. Riders climb to high places just to experience the thrill of the descent.

Fun is the goal every time the Southern Sierra Fat Tire Association goes out for a ride, and that is what the club is all about.

The club is a non-profit organization and members share a common love for the sport of riding.

The club has adopted several trails in the Greenhorn Ranger District, more than 200 miles, as well as in the U.S. Forestry Service near Rancheria Road and in the Kern Canyon off of Highway 178.

The club meets the first Tuesday of every month at Rusty's Pizza Parlor at 3303 Niles St. There they discuss rides, events and "trail days," where they go out to the trails to make them better for future rides.

Every Wednesday night the club meets at Juliet Thorne Elementary School for its weekly ride. All that is required is a light, a helmet and the intent to have a great time.

Dues are \$15 for individuals or \$25 for families.

A bike with full suspension is preferred by most members, but it is not a must for member eligibility. Not all members ride.



Some only do trail work. Bike helmets are required of all members.

The club promotes safety as much as possible. Members ask that everyone judge their own skill levels and ride within their own limits. Routes that are less steep and less technical should be taken by those who are not as experienced.

By doing so, the club has maintained an admirable safety record for the past year, with only two serious injuries.

The club hosts weekend and family rides for kids. The club is hosting the Haggan Oaks Christmas Bike Ride, a fund-raiser for the Jamison Center.

Club members ask for an unwrapped toy to be brought to the Kaiser Permanente Medical Office parking lot located at 8800 Ming Ave. on Thursday at 7 p.m. The public is invited.



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'GADE NEWSLINE

Tax assistance program to start

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program, sponsored by the Internal Revenue Service and the State Franchise Tax Board, helps thousands of taxpayers fill out their annual tax returns for free.

VITA is now looking for volunteers, including bilingual individuals, for their year 2000 program in Kern County. VITA assists low income, elderly, disabled and non-English speaking persons who cannot afford to pay for professional tax assistance. VITA volunteers help those people complete 540-EZ and 540-A forms.

An accounting background can be helpful, but is not necessary. The IRS provides VITA volunteers with free training in basic tax law and training in basic computer skills, asking them in return to volunteer 20 hours of their time. Training is usually conducted in January.

Volunteers are needed to help in a variety of ways such as preparing taxes, helping organizing sites or doing publicity for the program.

If students would like to be a VITA volunteer in the Kern County area, contact VITA Area Manager, Jim St. Amour at 588-1971.

Dean's basketball tourney set

The First Annual Dean's Tournament will be held at BC Gym at 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Friday Dec. 15. It will be a three on three double elimination basketball tournament.

Dean Charlie Guerrero has offered to sponsor the tournament. The Dean's tournament will be held every year at BC, and the winners' names will be permanently commemorated on a campus plaque.

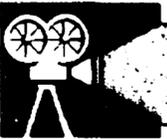
The purpose of the tournament is to increase student involvement at BC and to provide a fun activity.

The registration will be done in advance at activities office, and the charge is \$10 per team. No tickets are necessary as participants' names will be entered in a playoff bracket sheet as soon as payment is made.

The number of teams will be limited to 16 because of playoff bracket arrangements for dual round elimination tournaments and time limits. Each game will last 10 minutes with a five-minute interval between games.

For more information, call Michael Morledge at 395-4355.

— Compiled by Yuka Utsunomiya
Rip staff writer



MOVIE MINUTE

With no other big action films opening this weekend, the new mountain climbing thriller "Vertical Limit" may prove to be one of this winter's sleeper hits.

The movie stars Chris O'Donnell as Peter Garrett, a young climber who must rescue his sister Annie (Robin Tunney) and her team, who are trapped in an icy grave after an avalanche atop the world's second highest peak, K2.

Action director Martin Campbell ("The Mask of Zorro," "Goldeneye") has taken helm in this mountain-climbing epic, giving it an action movie feel.

Veteran actors Bill Paxton and Scott Glenn are also in the film. Photography for the film was handled by none other than David Tattersall, George Lucas' photographer on "Star Wars: Episode I."

The production of the movie took place atop the 10,000-foot high Mt. Cook in New Zealand. It is the highest elevation where a movie has ever been shot, with cast and crew being transported by helicopter to shoot the film. Mt. Cook was chosen because of its similarities to K2, where it would have been impossible to shoot the film.

With all the work and attention being paid to the accuracy and visual style of the film, if "Vertical Limit" works, expect a killing at the box office.



PHOTO COURTESY OF COLUMBIA PICTURES

Climber Peter Garrett (Chris O'Donnell) ascends K2, in rescue attempt.

— By Bryan Swaim
Editor in Chief

Q&A with Sharon Edgmon

Mathematics instructor Sharon Edgmon has taught at Bakersfield College for 25 years. She teaches Math A and Math D.



Q: "Why are people afraid of math?"

A: "That's a really good question. I think there are a lot of different reasons. One reason is that people are exposed to math concepts when they aren't developmentally ready to understand them. For example, if you try to teach algebra to some people that are maybe 10 or 11 years old, they won't understand it, no matter how hard you try to get them to, because they're not ... ready.

And so they end up feeling like they're stupid instead of not developmentally ready, and they carry the idea of 'stupid' with them

into the future."

Q: "How do you help your students to overcome their math anxiety?"

A: "What I do in my classes is, first of all, I play music often in between class times so that when the

students come in the room they can relax a little bit, because I have found that when students are tense, they can't think very well. So I try to get them to relax, I try to have a sense of humor in class and I tell a lot of analogies, a lot of stories, that illustrate how concepts work and I try to say everything out loud that I write on the board and I try to put in every little step."

Q: "Why should people care about algebra? Isn't it useless in real life?"

A: "Well, I know a lot of students say that, and in a way, it's true and false.

"I tell people that math develops their ability to think logically, to see the relationships between things that they might look at ... in the world."

CRIME BEAT

Police escort passenger off bus

At approximately 6 p.m. on Nov. 30, a Golden Empire Transit dispatcher advised that a drunken passenger was disturbing other passengers on a Bakersfield College bus. The suspect was escorted off campus and was able to walk home.

Cafeteria reports counterfeit \$5 bill

At approximately 3:30 p.m. on Nov. 30 a cafeteria assistant noticed a counterfeit \$5 bill. A food service department assistant told police that the bill was collected on the south side of the Humanities Building between the hours of 9 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. The bill was turned over to campus police.

Golf cart damages BC building

At approximately 12:20 p.m. on Nov. 28, campus police were called to the Fine Arts Building where an electrical golf cart had hit the west wall and dented it. A portable counter was also moved eight inches. The driver of the cart, from supportive services, stated only minor damages were done to the cart. Estimated damages to the Fine Arts Building is \$500.

— Compiled by Vanessa Boutwell
Rip staff writer

CORRECTION

In the Nov. 17 edition of *The Renegade Rip*, the front-page story on EOP&S should have stated that the state-funded program focuses on helping students with a low-income level and those who are educationally disadvantaged.

In the Dec. 1 edition, a photo of auto tech instructor Dan Johnson was incorrectly placed in an ad for "A Christmas in Kern." Johnson will not be a featured performer at the event.

The Renegade Rip staff apologizes for these errors.

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