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THE RENEGADE RIP

Vol. 71 No. 4

Bakersfield College

March 10, 2000

Administration removes adviser temporarily

BY NICHOLE PERRY
Rip staff writer

Bart Andrus has been temporarily removed from his position as the director of the Student Activities Office at Bakersfield College for undisclosed reasons pending a personnel investigation.

His removal was reported in Associated Students of Bakersfield College Executive Board minutes Feb. 4.

Steve Holmes, BC political science instructor and ASBC faculty

adviser, confirmed that Andrus had been removed from his role as ASBC adviser and in teaching Political Science 42, the leadership class with required enrollment for ASBC officials, but said that the reasons for Andrus' removal remain unknown.

Andrus declined to comment on his removal, saying he was advised by administration not to make a statement until investigations come to a conclusion.

In the meantime, he has been assigned to continue handling affairs with the Cybermark or Smartcard

program, dealing with all three of the KCCCD campuses.

His office has been relocated to the administration building, where most of his work will be conducted online.

Complaints were voiced by a small group of students in ASBC in the form of a letter which Holmes said requested Andrus' duties be reviewed because it was felt that a "productive" environment was lacking.

"A letter was written and submitted, signed by six to seven ASB students regarding their

adviser's duties," said Holmes.

Tadeu Szpoganicz, vice president of activities, said these same problems had been reported to Dr. Sandra Serrano, BC president, and many had been a part of ASBC for the past two years, but they were "ignored because no one ever saw what was going on."

A great deal of the conflict centered around Andrus' role as a director and his involvement with the students in regard to their duties.

"He overstepped the boundaries of an adviser and started taking action," said Szpoganicz. "He was

literally being called a dictator by some."

Szpoganicz said that the members of ASBC did try to confront Andrus and discuss the matters in question, but they were met with opposition.

"We (ASBC students) tried to approach him as a group. He got kind of nervous and upset that we were approaching him."

Corny Rodriguez, director of the Chicano Cultural Center, will act as interim director while Kathy Rosellini, BC counselor, will take over responsibilities along with

Holmes in teaching Political Science 42.

Rodriguez said he is there to help make the best of the situation, giving "100 percent" to the students by guiding input and assisting students in their positions.

"I don't see my role as keeping the peace," he said.

"I see my role as helping the students in their development, working with them in terms of their leadership skills and development. The adviser is not there to direct or lead but to guide input, to help students in government positions."



FRANCIS C. MAYER / THE RIP

Students begin their day long Proposition 21 march from the BC campus to the courthouse Liberty Bell on Sunday.

Raining on their parade

Students march despite cold, rainy weather to protest Proposition 21.

BY DANIEL F. HUNT
Opinion Editor

As they walked down Mt. Vernon Avenue early in their march on Sunday, they were confident that neighbors would be outside their houses watching them. Some neighbors did walk out and received fliers and information from the Bakersfield College students.

"What's going on?" asked Randy Wrzenski, a homeowner five blocks south of Bakersfield College. "I don't think (Prop. 21) is going to solve anything, maybe they need reform."

He held the same sentiment about Proposition 21 as the marchers did.

"It seems to me they are putting all this money towards prison, and that's not solving the problems," he said. "I think they are coming out with more problems than they went in with."

The students began their march at 10 a.m. and reached the Liberty Bell around 5 p.m.

The day long march was not large, but a small group of individuals who came to walk together to inform the community.

"I know that the rain is out and it can be sort of an inconvenience," said Leon Arellano, vice president of BC's M.E.Ch.A. "To walk in the rain, it reflects well on the club. It demonstrates, that we're out here rain or not."

The actual walk was altered from its original route due to time and bad weather, but despite the cold, the protesters kept high spirits throughout the walk.

"Yeah we're pumped," said Yolanda Sanchez, 25. "I think they need to give some type of reformation for these children. They are going to be locked up in prison. I think we should try to do some prevention before we do (lock them up)."

As the march wound down, some in the group

DECIDING THE VOTE
2000 California Primary Coverage



FRANCIS C. MAYER / THE RIP

Students said the measure supports prisons more than education.

admitted that they were tired, but they said they felt good to have put effort into the defeat of this proposition. Despite the effort, the measure passed Tuesday.

"The march is going good, the rain is kind-of hard, but

See PROP. 21, Page 6

BPD offers proposal for security

BY MELISSA DABRUSHMAN
Rip staff writer

The Bakersfield Police Department has offered to take over campus security with their own services.

They are the second off-campus agency interested in contracting campus security services. Last year, the Kern County Sheriff's Department made a proposal to take over security and have full-time deputies on campus.

According to Sgt. Jess Soto, head of campus security, BC president Dr. Sandra Serrano has submitted her recommendation to Chancellor Dr. Walter Packard on whether or not BC should acquire a higher level of security on campus. State law went into effect July 1999 requiring colleges to make a decision on whether or not to have trained officers (in compliance with Police Officers Standards and Training, or POST), on campus. The sheriff's department and the BPD are among the agencies waiting for the board of trustees to make a decision.

Lt. Bob Bivens, BPD public information officer, said he submitted a proposal to staff BC with police officers last month.

"Essentially, all you have is a (security) staff that would have to call the BPD for a big situation," he said.

Bivens' proposal listed different options for Serrano, which included having a full staff of BPD police on campus, a partial staff of BPD police with BC security officers already on campus, or light security consisting of only a couple of BPD officers on campus.

"We are flexible in our staffing proposal," he said. "A lot of my proposal was based on findings from a poll of students and staff on campus, saying they would feel safer with equipped and trained guards on campus."

"My personal opinion is if there is an armed officer on campus, he can do a lot of good. He can use his radio to call other BPD if necessary. There are some things (BC) needs to look at ... such as, if there is an emergency on campus that campus security cannot handle, they have to rely on us for a lot of things, traffic collisions and such. And (campus security) has to deal with slow response times from outlying agencies."

Assistant Sheriff Paul Montgomery said that the sheriff's department is still waiting for a decision.

"We haven't heard anything as of yet," he said. "We aren't sure whether (the board of trustees) has made a decision, or where they are at."

Union officials have said that any change in campus security's status must be negotiated.

"I haven't seen the proposal from the BPD, although I heard it was submitted," Soto said. "It is going to be discussed further in a meeting (later this month)."

On Tuesday, 32 percent more Kern County residents turned out to vote than in 1996. Controversial propositions and the Republican nomination race between John McCain and George W. Bush highlighted the ballots.



STEPHANNE A. BELL / THE RIP

Propositions, Republican race increase voter turnout

BY FRANCIS C. MAYER
Rip staff writer

The 1996 presidential primary didn't fire up Kern County voters nearly as much as this year's contest. Local polling places saw 32 percent more voters turning out to participate in a political slugfest featuring a hotly contested Republican primary and several much debated propositions.

"I'd like to think that the range and variety of issues was a big part of that," said Norm Briggs, chief deputy registrar of the Kern County Elections Department.

Local voters also expressed much concern over the race between Arizona Sen. John McCain and the eventual winner, Texas Gov. George W. Bush. McCain and Bush were battling it out Tuesday for the Republican presidential nomination in a race that drew the attention

of many non-Republican voters.

Registered Democrats Barbara Goodlow and James Towery both cast votes for McCain based on his experiences in the military and as a prisoner of war.

"He's a Vietnam veteran and so am I, so I know where he's coming from," Towery said Tuesday afternoon at a local polling site.

"I'm a veteran, and he's for veterans," Goodlow added.

But not all of McCain's crossover votes from registered Democrats would've stuck in a general election against Democratic nominee Al Gore.

"I feel he's the better Republican candidate," said registered Democrat Mavie Ghoman as she left her voting site at Bakersfield Fire Station No. 8. "I'm not sure if I'd vote for him in a general election, though."

Family, both influence and values, played a role in making Bush a winner in Kern County.

As she left Wesley United Methodist Church, Kandy Jimerson explained that family was the only factor in her decision to vote for George W. Bush.

"I voted for Bush because my husband told me to,"

Jimerson said.

Also voting at the Niles street church was Alfonso Garcia. Garcia cited family in his decision to vote for Bush.

"I voted for Bush because of his family values, and because I believe he inherited good things from his father," Garcia said.

The Bush victory was a difficult pill to swallow for McCain supporters and volunteers that gathered at Maitia's Basque Cafe to await election results in the waning hours of Super Tuesday.

"I'm disappointed because our candidate didn't make it," said McCain volunteer Patty Vignolo.

McCain supporters now face the difficult task of redirecting their political energies in a presidential race that is now between Gore and Bush. While much mud has been slung between Bush and McCain, many find the idea of supporting Gore incomprehensible.

"For me, the mere thought of having Al Gore ... appointing federal judges and U.S. Supreme Court justices scares me to death," said Stan Harper, Kings and

See ELECTIONS, Page 6



McCain visited Bakersfield's Jastro Park last week to gain support from local voters. According to McCain's staff, 300 people were expected. More than 2,000 individuals, however, came to greet the presidential hopeful. McCain addressed issues ranging from Social Security to military spending. He also encouraged young adults to become involved in the political process.

McCain

Presidential hopeful visits Bakersfield to rally for votes.

DECIDING THE VOTE
2000 California Primary Coverage

BY E. MICHAEL LEDFORD
Rip staff writer

but he says what he means."

Helen Trubar, a senior citizen on crutches who suffered from polio, travels through driving rainstorms to address envelopes to show her support for him. Naval Vietnam veterans stand in crowds for hours to get their sailor caps signed by him.

He is Sen. John McCain, Naval captain, Vietnam veteran, ex-Vietnam prisoner-of-war and as of Wednesday, candidate for president of the United States.

An estimated 2,000 people showed up for his political rally Feb. 25 at Jastro Park, allegedly breaking attendance records for any John McCain rally, according to coordinators. In Bakersfield, he has found supporters from all walks of life, some being drawn in by his humor and charisma, some by his war record and some by the quality of his politics.

World War II veteran and member of the Military Order of the Purple Heart John Hopper had nothing but good things to say about McCain before the rally.

"I think the man's finally going to straighten the Republican Party out," said Hopper. "He doesn't always say what we want him to say,

Many veterans seemed to be drawn to McCain's war record. As a Naval pilot he "intercepted" a surface-to-air missile, and spent the next several years in a Vietnamese prison camp, where he was tortured and beaten, refusing release until his crewmen were released with him.

Bob Karrer, one Vietnam veteran at the rally, was enraged over the estimated 12,000 military families on food stamps.

"There's no reason you should give up part of your life as an 18- or 19-year-old person to serve in the military, and then not get paid enough to support your family. It's shameful, is what it is," said Karrer, who said he wanted a president he could respect. "Unfortunately, it looks like right now he's getting more support from the general population than from his party. Hopefully his party will pull their heads out of their collective butts and get on the program. I don't have anything against George W. Bush. I just think McCain is the better choice."

McCain himself said during the rally that it was disgraceful to sacrifice military pay on less important projects.



MICHAEL D. ROSS / THE RIP

"We spent \$235 million on a helicopter carrier the Navy neither wants nor needs. Meanwhile we have 12,000 brave young military families on food stamps. That is a national disgrace. There will be no food-stamp army when I am president."

— John McCain

"My friends," McCain said, "we don't need. We spent \$235 million on a helicopter carrier the Navy neither wants nor needs. Meanwhile we have 12,000 brave young military families on food stamps. That is a national disgrace. There will be no food-stamp army when I am president."

Larry Wygent, the local staff

coordinator for McCain, said he was a political dropout until McCain came into the race.

"I've had a really bad attitude about the government in general because I'm a Vietnam vet," said Wygent. "Then McCain came onto the scene with his war record, enduring things that I couldn't imagine. I don't have the raw fortitude for that. You just have to respect a man with that kind of courage and integrity."

Wygent also is pleased with McCain's Social Security plan, which calls for devoting 65 percent of the budget surplus to indemnify the Social Security debt, and subsequently take it "off-budget," where it can't be borrowed from, he said.

citizens, such as BC biology major Mary Anne DeSilva, who attended the rally.

"He's really into Social Security," she said. "Hopefully, by the time I need it, it will be saved." One of McCain's biggest supporters locally is Mary K. Shell, the former mayor of Bakersfield from 1981 through 1984, and later Board of Supervisors member from 1985 to 1996. She said during an interview before the rally that she has supported McCain for president since 1995.

"I think he has the character, the integrity and the leadership qualities we need in the White House right now," said Shell. She especially applauded his message toward young people, which is to "serve a cause greater than themselves."

During his speech, McCain was quick to criticize traditionalist Republicans of being intolerant of human differences.



FRANCIS C. MAYER / THE RIP

last two presidential elections. We lost the last two congressional elections. That's because we lost our way," said McCain. "We are the party of Abraham Lincoln! We want to reach out. We're an inclusive party. We are the party of addition, not division. We are a party of inclusion, not exclusion. We are a party that says 'Join us. Join us, those of you who know that this is the greatest nation in the history of the world.'"

Mary Helen Barro, another BC student, is a staunch McCain supporter.

"I walked precincts with Ronald Reagan and Barry Goldwater," said Barro. "and this is the first Republican I've supported in years."

Women's History Month BC Event Schedule

March 13 noon-1 p.m. "Sandra Cisneros' Woman Hollering Creek and People/Women on Borderlands," Carol Cunningham (library)

March 14 noon-1:30 p.m. "A Bluestocking's Guide to Women's Fiction," Marci Linggo (library)

"Maid to Order: Changing Race Relations in Three Women's Films"

March 17 2:30-5 p.m. *Imitation of Life*, the first film in the series. Pat Thompson, viewing and discussion.

March 18 9:30 a.m.-noon *The Long Walk Home*, second film in the series. Pat Thompson, viewing and discussion.

March 18 1:30-3:30 p.m. *Passion Fish*, third film in the series. Pat Thompson, viewing and discussion.

March 20 7-9 p.m. "Not For Ourselves Alone: A Viewing Party." Part 1- film/discussion of Ken Burns' latest documentary on the lives of Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony. Pat Thompson

March 21 7-9 p.m. "Not For Ourselves Alone: A Viewing Party." Part 2- film/discussion of Ken Burns' latest documentary on the lives of Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony. Pat Thompson

schedule to be continued in next week's edition

Get on the GET bus. GET bus. get on the GET

Trouble parking on campus?

Get on the GET bus & avoid parking hassles! GET travels to BC over one hundred times daily. Bus stop is located at the northeast parking lot.

Route 1-every 30 minutes
Route 4-every 30 minutes
Route 5-every 20 minutes
Route 11-every 30 minutes
Cross-town Express-every 30 minutes

Night classes? No problem. Ride late Monday through Friday, some routes as late as 11:00 p.m.

869-2GET

BY NICHOLE PERRY
Rip staff writer

In ancient Greek times there lived a man named Pygmalion. Disgusted by the local selection of women, he decided to create the "perfect" image himself. Out of pure ivory the sculptor crafted a beautiful maiden to worship, whom he called Galatea. Soon he became so enamored of the statue he went to the altar of Aphrodite to ask if she might bring his "love" to life. Aphrodite heard his pleas and made the ivory into flesh.

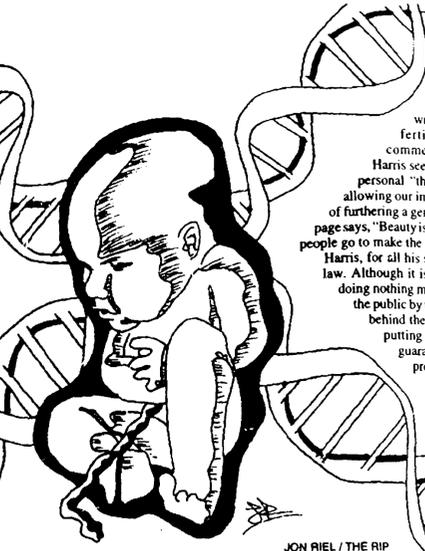
Modern day Pygmalion, Ron Harris, "soft-core-porn" videographer and fashion photographer, has made a name for himself running what Time magazine's Michael D. Leonick calls a "soft-core eBay to the Hitlerian crime of eugenics."

Harris is part of the growing trend of selling "beautiful, healthy and intelligent" woman's eggs at top dollar. Paying the \$24.95 charge, the entire cyberworld has "full access" to participating models' stats and pics, so as to choose the perfect candidate for furthering the human species.

Upon checking out the page, (not "full access") I was met face to face with the image of a Yasmien Bleeth look-alike.

Though none of the nine models shown exhibited such good looks, they were an attractive group of worldwide candidates.

Ranging in age from the 20-year-old Romanian woman who choose to sell her egg to be able to "move to USA," to the 32-year-old European model with a penchant for the arts, each contestant in the commercially driven game of genetics is given an equal opportunity to sell her goods at face value, all for the remarkable



JOHN RIEL / THE RIP

EGGS FOR SALE

One man hopes to sell women's beauty over the Internet to anyone.

utility specialist it takes some 56 hours to complete the process, which includes a test, ultrasounds, self-administered injections, retrieval, and if all this is accepted, hormone treatment must be followed to stimulate ovaries from one to as many as 50 eggs a month.

Who knows, maybe much like their ancient predecessor Galatea, these models will help some man get the perfect girl, and we will have Rot. Harris to thank.

bidding price of \$15,000 to 150,000 in U.S. currency. "Choose the girl who resembles you. A better looking version of you," according to his website.

Sen. Ron Wyder of Oregon, who wrote a 1992 federal law regulating fertility clinics, calls it "crass commercialism." Internet entrepreneur Harris sees it as nothing more than sharing his personal "theories of beauty and biology" and allowing our gene-obsessed culture an easy means of furthering a genetic pool of bathing beauties. As the page says, "Beauty is its own reward," but to what cost will people go to make the "perfect" person?

Harris, for all his smutty behavior, is not breaking the law. Although it is illegal to sell human organs, he is doing nothing more than profiting off the stupidity of the public by trying to play God. Like the Great Oz behind the curtain, smoke and lights, Harris is putting forth a product with little to no guarantee. And profit he has. Although at press time only one legitimate bid had been recorded, think of the money he's making off the publicity alone.

But the amazing thing about all this is despite all the negative attention, inquiries continue to pour in, among them Harvard and Berkeley students, many doing it for the money to get through school. It seems to me that seeing as many of these models have a grasp on the whole book smarts department, they'd have enough know-how to check up on the process of in-vitro fertilization.

According to fertility specialist it takes some 56 hours to complete the process, which includes a test, ultrasounds, self-administered injections, retrieval, and if all this is accepted, hormone treatment must be followed to stimulate ovaries from one to as many as 50 eggs a month.

Who knows, maybe much like their ancient predecessor Galatea, these models will help some man get the perfect girl, and we will have Rot. Harris to thank.

Proposition 22 reflects heterosexual origins

I would like to respond to the latest article to the editor concerning Prop. 22. The writer states that we must have an open mind on this subject. How open is open and what is truth? We are all attending BC to expand our education, broadening our minds to looking at things from different points of view, correct?

I am 42 years of age and I have pondered this subject from a number of different points of view.

Can anybody please tell us from the time of creation, either from us evolving or by the big bang theory, who came first? Was it the male or female and how many of each? Or was it the same type of sex? If it is of the latter we have a big problem what we are being taught by the education systems that we so embrace. Science teaches that positive and negative charges attract.

So let's say the female is the positive charge. If by itself it will do nothing except sit there and vegetate, but what happens if we put two positives together? What do we get? The same thing. So what is the result?

Now if the female is the positive charge then the male will be the negative charge and you put it across from the positive charge what do you get? What you get is a charge and movement.

This has nothing to do with a religion, but it has to do with the very origins of how we were conceived in this world. Now if anybody can show with evidence that I am wrong I will listen. We know there are some straightforward facts in this world. Such as, the air we breathe, the water we drink. So why can people accept this? Are they living in the Dark Ages? It's a fact, positive female and negative male equal marriage.



JOHN BROOKS / THE RIP

Floyd W. Grimes
BC Student

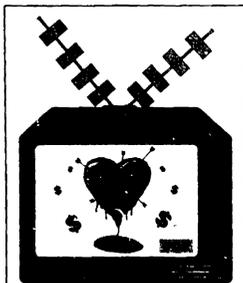
Marrying a millionaire on TV was poor judgment call by Fox

BY JOHN BROOKS
Rip staff writer

When the FOX TV network decided to air its "Who Wants to Marry a Multi-Millionaire" it only showed how potentially awful a marriage of corporate media ambition and popular culture is. The program attracted 22 million viewers who must have had absolutely nothing better to do but soak in a swamp of cheap love and greed in the cable TV landscape. Instead of programs with dramatic depth or uplifting themes, FOX chose to lure the masses with a circus of shallow human lives.

How can a competition among 50 bachelorettes to win the status as multi-millionaire Rick Rockwell's wife be considered a source of entertainment? The fact that FOX expected to magnify its ratings while delighting the public with this vile type of program demonstrates how television crawls on the dirt floor of American culture.

After sorting through his pool of hopeful brides, Rick Rockwell picked former Air Force Sgt. Darva Conger, from Barstow, Calif., to be his wife. But their epic two-hour courtship and matrimonial union tore at the seams rapidly. On their honeymoon night, the two refused to sleep together. Then it was discovered that FOX's background investigation for Rockwell ignored the fact that the man had been placed under a restraining order by a California judge for hitting and threatening to kill his ex-fiancee



JOE SIMPSON / GRAPHICS EDITOR

in 1991. Soon a humiliated FOX resolved to overturn its anxious decision to run a rerun and sequel to the show and discarded the concept altogether. Perhaps cable TV networks must learn the hard way.

"Who Wants to Marry a Multi-Millionaire?" was downright sleazy. Its idea of greed as the motivating force toward matrimony should insult the general public. Did FOX believe this was an effective mass appeal for better ratings? Hopefully, FOX and its rival corporate media titans have learned an important lesson and will take better care in manipulating popular taste.

Security agency accused of eavesdropping

BY STEPHANY BULLARD
Rip staff writer

Government hearings on "Project Echelon," the surveillance system that is alleged to be intercepting and eavesdropping on Americans' private phone calls, e-mails, faxes and data transmissions, are still pending.

U.S. Representative Bob Barr from Georgia is currently one of the leaders of the fight against "Project Echelon" and the one that called the hearings. Barr is concerned about the privacy of Americans, especially since little or no Americans really know about Echelon or the National Security Agency that is behind it.

The government needs to continue to look into the activities of the NSA and "Project Echelon" and take actions against them if they are not within the law. Along with the government's contract for Americans' need to stand up for our privacy and civil liberties.

Apparently the NSA feels that it has good reason to eavesdrop on Americans' private lives, and now has found

itself defending its surveillance to Congress, calling it tactics "constitutional, legal and ethical." Still, as Barr has said, "What concerns me is not the intelligence community's monitoring activities per se; but the scope of the activities. When a government agency acts like it has something to hide, it's a pretty good bet it does."

In an amendment that Barr and Sen. Jim Inhofe added to a pending foreign intelligence authorization bill, the intelligence community will be required to report within 60 days on the precise legal standards it uses when communications involving American citizens

are intercepted. Laws like this will make it more difficult for agencies to slither around existing laws by using technicalities. One of these existing laws says that a government agency monitoring domestic communications must get a warrant from a judge to intercept calls. However, an agency seeking to monitor foreign intelligence communications does not have to meet the same standards. The problem arises when that same agency monitoring foreign intelligence moni-

tors domestic communications and no one knows, thus for making it above the law.

Congress should act immediately to fix loopholes that continue to let agencies defy the law due to wording. The government needs to be on an intense search to find out if the surveillance is working within the bounds of the law. If not, proper action needs to be taken.

Americans need to stand up for their privacy and civil liberties immediately. By being uninformed we have allowed the NSA and others with the right equipment to tap into one of the most sacred things in society: our private lives.

Things will continue unless people get informed about Echelon. "Project Echelon" will continue to operate as a "gigantic, state-of-art surveillance vacuum cleaner," as Barr said. Do we really want that? Inform your parents, family and friends about this growing problem.

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THE RENEGADE RIP

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'GADE FEEDBACK

ROSEMARY HOBBS / THE RIP

Is college harder than you thought it would be? Why or why not?

Cole Campbell, Undecided: "No, everyone told me it was hard, but it's still like high school."

Nicole Orth, Criminal Justice: "Yes, I thought it would be like high school, but it's not."

Dustin Wilkins, Undecided: "No, it's just the same as high school except you have to manage your time yourself."

Jocelyn Freeman, Nursing: "Easier. The high school I came from had a lot of college prep classes, and I knew what I had to look forward to."

Veejee Carlos, Mechanics: "Yes, it's harder because you have to study more and spend more money."

RENT

Broadway hit delights local crowd

BY ERIN LOPEZ
Features Editor

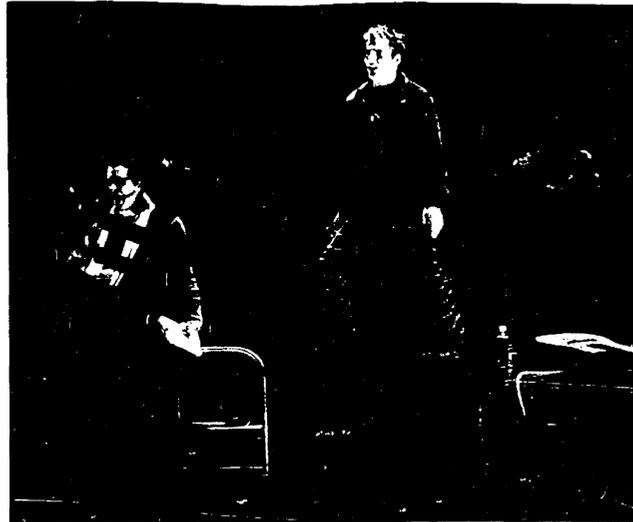
It's not everyday that the people of Bakersfield see drag queens, heroin addicts, street musicians and performance artists, let alone pay to see them. That all changed when the musical "Rent" came to town last weekend.

Based on Giacomo Puccini's opera "La Boheme," which followed the lives of artists struggling to make it in 19th-century Paris, "Rent" sets itself in 20th-century New York's subculture and follows the lives of a group of friends throughout the year.

The cast of characters include Angel (Shaun Earl), an HIV-positive drag queen, and Collins (Horace Rogers), an anarchist computer whiz, who fall in love with each other; Mark (Matt Caplan), a struggling filmmaker who lives with Roger (Cary Shields), his HIV-positive musician friend; Benny (Brian Love), an upstart landlord who used to live with Mark and Roger; Maureen (Michelle Joan Smith), a performance artist who dated Mark and who is now dating Joanne (Jacqueline Arnold), a lesbian attorney; and Mimi (Saycon Sengbloh), an HIV-positive exotic dancer with a heroin addiction.

The score provides a fitting musical background to the play's realism with a hard-core band of rock musicians providing the music. The musical's lyrics are as tight and emotionally gripping as the plot. "One Song Glory" is a heart-wrenching ballad that reflects Roger's need for one song to be his final legacy.

The whole play grips the audience in a trance with powerful songs like "One Song Glory." The reality of the characters' lives is doubled by the passion the actors use to portray them so realistically. All of the



Above: Matt Caplan, left, and Cary Shields, right, decide not to pay the rent that's due. Below: Jacqueline Arnold talks on the phone to her girlfriend.

actors chosen to portray the characters in "Rent" were phenomenal. So real were their performances, that it was easy to forget that you were watching the lives of fictional characters. It also was easy to forget that the dialogue was primarily singing.

The musical begins on Christmas Eve, with Mark and Roger being threatened with eviction by Benny, their former roommate who owns the building, renegeing on his word that he wouldn't charge them rent. But they aren't the only ones being evicted. Benny also is evicting the homeless who live in the lot next to their building.

Protesting the eviction is Mark's ex-girlfriend Maureen, who schedules a performance protest for

midnight on Christmas Eve.

Unfortunately, the performance turns into an unexpected riot that influences the lives of the group of friends for the rest of the year.

When one thinks of musicals, the picture that comes to mind is of a bygone era that seem far removed from today's society. That definition is bound to change after one viewing of "Rent."

The play deals with modern issues such as AIDS, drug addiction and homelessness, as well as the eternal themes of life, friendship and love.

There is a reason "Rent" won four Tony awards and the 1996 Pulitzer Prize for Drama. If you missed "Rent," you missed out.



ARON VIETTI / THE RIP

'Setzuan': a worthy play

BY LAUREN KESEL
Rip staff writer

While sitting in the BC Indoor Theater waiting to watch "The Good Person of Setzuan," one might look at the stage decorations and wonder what type of play is about to be experienced. Once the house lights dim and the play begins, the stage truly comes to life with the presence of its actors.

With excellent acting and a wonderful script, "The Good Person of Setzuan" was a remarkably enjoyable play starring talented BC students.

One of the best acted characters is Wang performed by Karl Wade. Wang, a bum who sells water to the people of Setzuan, brings life to the play's story.

The play starts when three mortal gods played by John Loughman, Kathi Durham and Tracy Herda, are searching for at least one truly good person to prove that there is still hope in the world. Wang tries to help them by finding them a place to stay. Much to his dismay, everyone is selfish and uncaring and he cannot find a place for the gods to stay. Luckily Wang thinks of the local prostitute Shen Te (Stephanie Reynolds).

Shen Te opens up her one-room shack to three strangers and in return they reward her with quite a bit of money.

Shen Te soon gets aggravated with everyone walking all over her, so she poses as her "cousin" Shui Ta. As a male she can be rude and dominating.

By the end of the play, she is established as one "good person" because she had upright intentions throughout the accidental pandemonium.

Not only was the acting fascinating, but Reynolds did an excellent job. She brought the play to life by being articulate and confident.

The play as a whole was quite enjoyable. The lighting and sound were nearly flawless but the costumes could have been a bit more creative and ethnic perhaps. There were a few surprise musical numbers that didn't quite seem to fit in this comedic satire.

You should definitely see this play either tonight, or Saturday at 8 p.m. for \$8 or \$5 with student ID. Don't miss it.

'What Planet' offers fresh take on human relationships



Harold (Gary Shandling) and Susan (Annette Bening) adjust to the ups and downs of married life.

BY BRYAN SWAIM
Rip staff writer

"What Planet Are You From?" is a definite original. It's not often in a movie where the alien actually looks like a human, let alone marries one, settles down and has a kid. Sure there's the tired subplot about the alien race taking over earth, but never mind that. The film is a well-made romantic comedy that feels fresh at a time where every other comedy either stars Julia Roberts or one of the "Friends" cast members.

"What Planet Are You From?" begins on a particularly nasty note. We are brought to a planet of men centuries ahead of our own race. For them to conquer the universe, they must impregnate an earth woman in

order to produce more aliens. Harold Anderson (Gary Shandling) is the lucky alien chosen for the task. He is briefed about the way earth women act, but is warned that women are unpredictable. Harold finds this out by being slapped by a stewardess after ignorantly asking, "May I insert my penis in you?"

Of course, the alien men look exactly like human men, except for the penis, which Anderson had to have mechanically attached before his descent to earth. The penis malfunctions, so whenever Anderson gets aroused, a loud humming comes from it. This in turn scares the women off. Who says getting laid in the movies was easy?

At this point, you might be asking yourself, "How did this movie get

made?" Well, just look at the talent. The film is directed by Mike Nichols, whose credits include "The Graduate" and "Prima ary Colors," and was written by Shandling.

who was an Emmy winner for his HBO sitcom, "The Larry Sanders Show." Current Oscar nominee Annette Bening plays Anderson's chosen wife, who ends up getting pregnant with the alien baby. Even Oscar winner Ben Kingsley jumped aboard, playing the leader of the alien race, a far stretch from "Gandhi" or "Schindler's List."

The film is an example of top talent having a blast with a fun script. It works as a metaphor for how men and women relate to each other and how we can learn from it.

Although "What Planet Are You From?" is funny from beginning to end, there were many scenes that didn't belong. The whole subplot involving John Goodman as an investigator on the trail of Shandling goes nowhere and seems like useless filler between the magical scenes involving Shandling and Bening. The film also ends in the wrong direction.

The first hour almost makes you think you're in for some sick, satirical comedy, but then leaves you with some washed up feel-good moments designed for a Meg Ryan film. But aside from that, "What Planet Are You From?" is surprisingly fresh and witty.

REVIEW

African drummer brings history, wisdom and music to BC

BY ERIN M. LOPEZ
Features Editor

People were dancing and swaying to the rhythm that master drummer Samuel Kwaku Daddy played during his musical presentation at Bakersfield College.

Thanks to the efforts of Daddy's former student and BC teacher Dr. Ron Kean and the support of Dr. Wilhelmina Anthony and the Staff Diversity Committee, Daddy was able to perform at BC as part of the recent festivities celebrating Black History Month, after attending this year's Grammy's.

He lectured and demonstrated African drumming to former student Kean's world music classes, and performing a noon time musical demonstration.

Born in Adabraka, Ghana and playing since he was 3 years of age, Daddy comes from a family tradition of master drummers and folklorists.

"Over 28 generations of master drummers ... my mother is from generations and generations of folklorists, storytellers," he said.

In a culture where music is as

much a part of daily life as breathing, master drummers and storytellers have an esteemed part in African society because they carry African history.

"It's a very big tradition," he explained. "It's a tradition that doesn't only know the philosophy of a society, it's a tradition that maintains the heritage of a society. It's an honor to be (a master drummer)."

Though Daddy comes from a long line of master drummers and storytellers, he wasn't aware of it while growing up. For him, it was just having fun.

"I was just playing, just having fun. But they made sure I learned all the stuff," he said.

"In the African culture you have to learn the tradition anyway, whether you're going to be a lawyer, doctor or whatever you're going to be. You have to learn because that's what contains your history. It contains your folklore, your music. African society and it's history—music has so much to do with it. You don't do anything in Africa without singing or playing. Music is constantly there."

By the time Daddy was 14, he was traveling around Africa with a musical group.

"You know when you become a master you have to become something like a wandering minstrel. You do a concert from here to there and you go to Nigeria, you go to this town you go to this place, to Kenya."

He left Ghana when he started playing in England and Italy regularly. He has played around the world as headliner, co-headliner, solo artist and band member. For years he toured with musical giant Dizzy Gillespie as well as Buddy Rich and Randy Weston. He's also co-headlined with Santana and Jimmy Cliff as well as recorded music with Grammy nominee, Paul Winter.

Daddy attended this year's Grammy's to support Winter as well as see his peers.

Daddy himself has been nominated to be on the Grammy ballot twice. Though he has never made it to the final ballot, he feels it is an honor to just be nominated. "I keep saying to myself one of these days. Actually I love going to

these things, it's not about winning or not winning. I just like to just be there. I think just being there makes me a winner anyway."

When Daddy is not rubbing elbows with his musical peers, he can be found teaching music and African drumming at San Francisco City College.

He began his teaching career at San Francisco State University, where he taught for 10 years before moving to San Francisco City College.

It was through teaching that Daddy met Kean at a conference for the Music Association of Community Colleges.

"He was there playing and demonstrating African musical instruments at a time when I was beginning to like and explore world music," said Kean.

In 1993, on his sabbatical, he went to study West African drumming with Daddy. Kean cites his study of African drumming as enhancing his conducting skills. According to him, major choral conductors commented that the sound of his choirs had become more vibrant and robust as a result of his



Left, Dr. Ron Kean and Samuel Kwaku Daddy, right, play for students at a musical presentation on African drumming.

natural instruments as a way to experience the natural music of the planet."

In his presentation, Daddy stressed the importance of music. "In music you play music to grow."

Renegade hoops finish season well

BC men and women advance past round, then lose to tough competition in tournament play.

BY LEANNE CAVE
Sports Editor

Reflecting back on this year's basketball season, Renegade fans had a lot to cheer about.

Both men and women had 20 or more wins, big wins on the road, beating ranked teams which earned first round playoff berths at home in the Southern California Regional Tournament.

The BC women celebrated a 24-11 overall record and clinched second place in the Western State Conference finishing at 9-3. The strength of the 'Gades was strong bench play.

"The key to our success has been our bench," said head coach Paul Dahl. "We had players step up and play hard for us this season."

In the first round of the regional playoffs, the 11th-seeded women dominated No. 22 seed Southwestern College in every phase of the game, (rebounding, defense, perimeter shooting, key three-point shots and free throws) and opened with a 75-66 win over the Apaches to advance to the second round against sixth-seeded Orange Coast College.

Nicole Mack, the state's leading rebounder for the Apaches, got into foul trouble and had to sit the bench in the second half of the game.

This helped BC control the boards (a team total of 46 rebounds) and beat Southwestern at its own game.

Adrienne Colbert led BC with a double-double, 10 points, 16 rebounds.

The second round game against Orange Coast College was a game of frustration for the women as they couldn't maintain momentum and eventually lost to the Pirates 92-69 at Peterson Gym in Costa Mesa.

With 5:25 left in the first half, the 'Gades tied the score at 27. Then Orange Coast took control of the game scoring 23 points to BC's four and played good defense.

BC didn't score a field goal in the last five minutes of the first half and trailed 50-39 at halftime.

Led by Leah Wilde's 23 points, OCC shot 49 percent in the first half including 6 of 12 from three-point range.

However, the second half was a different story for the Pirates as they only managed to make three of their first 21 shots.

This allowed BC to go on 14-4 run and cut the deficit to 58-52, but it was no avail as OCC regained its momentum with two consecutive goals and went on to eliminate BC from the tournament.

Nicole Woodruff led the 'Gades with a team high 23 points. The BC men's basketball team achieved its 20-game winning season with tough road wins during the season and in the Southern California regional playoffs.

The 'Gades finished at 20-11 overall and 7-5 in the WSC, a fourth place finish.

With a season ending record of 18-9, BC was seeded 15 and awarded a first round home playoff game.

In the first round against San Bernardino Valley College on Feb. 25, BC came back from 17 points down to capture a thrilling come from behind one-point victory over the Indians 63-62.

The Renegades came out shooting blanks while the Indians were shooting arrows right on target.

The 'Gades played flat in the first half while SBVC players controlled the boards with 17 rebounds as well as made almost every shot they took and played tough defense, causing numerous BC turnovers.

Bobby Burries had 14 points and three steals in the first half



David Ball pushes the ball up the court past Bobby Burries in playoff win.

Reflecting back on this year's basketball season, Renegade fans had a lot to cheer about. Both men and women had 20 or more wins, big wins on the road, beating ranked teams which earned first round playoff berths at home in the Southern California Regional Tournament.

for San Bernardino Valley.

The second half belonged to the 15th-seeded Renegades as they came out firing bullets, shooting 64 percent and played consistent on defense to get the win and move on to the second round against No. 2-seed Compton at Tartar Gym in Compton.

The momentum stayed with the 'Gades in round two of the Southern California regionals as they traveled to Compton and knocked off the highly-seeded Tartars 79-69.

BC snapped Compton's 10-game winning streak which left the Tartar faithful a little stunned.

The Renegade players did what they have done well all season, controlled the boards and

played solid, aggressive defense.

"Coach Hughes has told our players all season if they played aggressively and smart, cut down on the turnovers, rebounded and made the second chance shots, we can play with anybody," said assistant coach Vern Vesgo.

They allowed Compton to shoot only 34 percent from the field as they held Kevin Bradley, Compton's highly recruited point guard, to 16 points.

The 'Gades shot 46 percent in a solid offensive performance.

Two Renegades had double-doubles, freshman Steve Carter with 20 points and 18 rebounds while sophomore Rodney Crawford had 17 points and 16 rebounds.

The win set up a third round match with Riverside College on March 1.

This time, this round, BC was beaten by an impressive Riverside team 94-76.

The loss ended a rewarding season for a young and up-and-coming Renegade team.

The Tigers out rebounded the 'Gades 51-34 and dominated with a swift transition game.

Brian Collins scored 33 points for Riverside and contributed to a 12-point run that helped to seal the victory.

Riverside as a team made 32-41 free throws.

Rodney Crawford, who was the season's leading scorer for the 'Gades, led the way for BC with 20 points.

Ventura tops BC in men's tennis action

BY FRANCIS C. MAYER
Rip staff writer

The Bakersfield College men's tennis team ran into stiff competition during a recent home match against Ventura College. Despite a spirited fight from the BC squad the Pirates sailed to a 9-0 dual match victory March 2, bringing the Renegades' team record to 3-6 for the season.

The strong showing by Ventura was expected. "Ventura's got more depth, and they've beaten some teams that have beaten us," said BC tennis coach Scott Lockwood.

BC may have been hindered by the absence of two starters, Scott Lynch with shoulder tendonitis and Farshid Holakovee with the flu.

"It just hurts from playing a lot," said Lynch, who expects to return from the injury very soon.

Lynch has posted a 2-4 match record on the season as BC's second seed, while Holakovee has gone a strong 5-2, playing between the third and fifth spots on the squad.

"Without them, it makes a tough job more difficult," said Lockwood.

BC No. 1 seed Chris Wong fell 6-4, 6-1, to Ventura's T.J. Veii, but the match was closer than the score revealed, said Lockwood.

"The first thirty minutes he was right there with their best player, at one point it was 4-3," he said.

The first set saw Wong moving Veii around the court well with his tremendous power. Wong's serve has been recorded at 100 plus miles-per-hour.

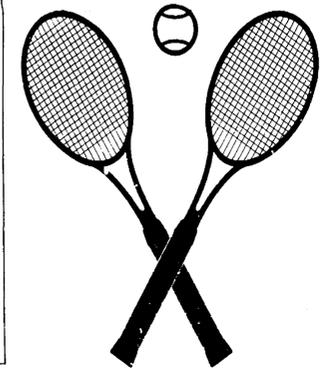
"The second set just lost a little (of my game), he was a little more steady," said Wong.

Lockwood explained that "losing just a little of your game" can be a death knell to a player's competitiveness in a singles match.

"If you let down even 10 percent you're knocked out, there's not someone else with you on the court to pick up the slack," said Lockwood.

While acknowledging that Wong was a tough competitor, Veii explained that the day belonged to Ventura.

"We did damn good, actually ... we brought our game today," Veii said.



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'GADE NEWSLINE

WHAT'S HAPPENING WHERE & WITH WHOM

College offers network marketing class

A two-hour seminar in network marketing, the latest tool to reach consumers, will be offered Tuesday and repeated each Tuesday evening through May 24 at Bakersfield College's Weill Institute. Each seminar begins at 6 p.m.

Attendees will learn how to use network marketing to succeed in business, how to leverage time and finances and how to sense the timing for growth in their business or industry.

Cost for the seminar is \$5 per person or \$7 per couple. For reservations or information, call 395-4088.

BC alumnus receives national honors

Bakersfield College alumnus L. Richard Walton has been named to the All-USA Academic Team. Sponsored by USA Today, the competition is designed to recognize the top college students in the nation.

A senior at Pacific Union College, Walton received honorable mention, a distinction enjoyed by only three other college students in California. He attended BC in 1997.

"I credit much of this to the fine instruction I got at BC," said Walton in a press release. "Superb professors such as Mary Copelin and Stephen Smith gave me the start I needed."

Students should be wary traveling

As the time approaches for spring break many college students are preparing for trips abroad. Many vacations are ruined by drugs, alcohol and disorderly behavior, so the U.S. Department of State and Bureau of Consular Affairs is issuing these travel safety tips to college students.

Each year, more than 2,500 American citizens are arrested abroad. Students have been arrested for underage drinking, driving under the influence, and public intoxication. Some go abroad under the false assumption that, being an American, they are immune to prosecution in foreign lands. Students should familiarize themselves with the laws, customs or standards of the country where they are visiting.

To have a safe trip, students should avoid risky behavior and become familiar with the basic laws and customs of the country they plan to visit before they travel. To obtain more information about traveling abroad, check the Department of State's web site at <http://travel.state.gov>.



MARK RILEY / THE RIP

TOP TEN SIGNS YOUR CAMPAIGN IS DOOMED

10. Campaign bus adorned with catchy slogan "Greyhound."
9. Your staffers already refer to day after "Super Tuesday" as "Crushing Depression Wednesday."
8. Your name: Michael W. Dukakis
7. John Rucker won't shut up about how great you are.
6. You ask your wife who she voted for; she says, "That's Personal."
5. You own one suit, and it's starting to get ripe.
4. You've done the bulk of your campaigning in Mexico.
3. Only "celebrity" supporting you is a guy who sort of looks like Roy Scheider.
2. When McCain mentions years in Vietnamese prison, you brag, "In junior high I was, like, always getting detention."
1. Voters refer to you as "The dork in the pirate outfit."

Reprinted with permission from "The Late Show" with David Letterman

Rubes

By Leigh Ruben



"Sorry, pal, those are the rules ... no ID, no booze."

CRIME BEAT

KEEPING YOU INFORMED ON THE CAMPUS

BY MELISSA DABRUSHMAN
Rip staff writer

Student's purse stolen from car while in class

A female student reported that on Feb. 25 her purse had been stolen from her car, which was parked on Panorama Drive. There are no suspects.

The Bakersfield Police Department is handling the case.

Wallet stolen from student's backpack

On March 6 at approximately 11:30 a.m., a female student reported that her wallet was stolen from her backpack outside the bookstore.

She had dropped her backpack next to the bookstore doors for a few minutes while she went inside to buy a book, and upon returning noticed that her backpack was open.

No arrests have been made.

Police investigate table vandalism

A female Associated Students of Bakersfield College member called campus security on March 1 to report that someone was marking on the tables in Campus Center.

Student's backpack stolen from men's gym

On March 2, a male student went to use the restroom in the gym, leaving his blue backpack outside the restroom door.

Upon returning five minutes later, he noticed that his backpack was gone.

Parking permits stolen from students' vehicles

Campus police are investigating two stolen student parking permits.

A female student reported on Feb. 24 her parking permit was stolen from the rear view mirror of her car, which was parked between 10 a.m. and noon next to the tennis court.

On March 1 at 10 a.m., a male student reported that his permit was stolen from his car, which was parked by the tennis court west of the gym.

PROP. 21: Marchers seek education over incarceration

Continued from Page 1

the rain is never going to stop us," said Hector Leonzo, 19.

The "Prop 21 Committee" is a group of students from M.E.Ch.A., the African-American Student Union and Students for a Free Tibet. It was assembled last month in an effort to raise awareness of Proposition 21 which was put in front of voters on Tuesday.

Proposition 21 would clear the way for minors, 14 and older, to be punished more severely and placed in regular prisons versus youth correctional facilities.

Proposition 21 would punish teens for gang violence, arson, murder and other felony crimes.

The committee held a press conference on March 4. Students who attended were told about the damaging effects of Prop. 21 and how the money proposed for the law could be better spent.

"We should be embarrassed that California is number 41 for investing its money in education," said Octavio Barajas, 19, at the press conference.

"However, its remained number one in our nation, as the state that invests more money into the prison system."

Others on the panel felt the same way, that the money would be better spent on education reform versus expansion of the prison system.

Their conviction that this proposition is taking California in the wrong direction is why the group lead a march from Bakersfield College to the downtown Liberty Bell at the county courts office.

Despite the cold temperatures and rain, a dozen students walked in protest to alert the community of this proposed law.

"To inform through the media, to exposure the actual intentions of Prop. 21," Arellano, 20. "We're

hoping for 20 to 30 people to walk with us. We had positive feedback at the meeting and a lot of people came to hear what we had to say, which is great."

Proponents of the bill say that this group is mislead and uninformed. Dan Sparks, chief deputy district attorney, said that this new provision to the law would not have a great impact on Kern County.

"Since January of this year, we have watched at juvenile (court) to see how many crimes would come into the premises of this law. There have been exactly zero.

"It's a point that should be made, the (opponents) of the initiative often like to characterize this class of minor as children," he said. "They are four years away from voting for president. At that degree of maturity they should be able to exercise judgment sufficiently.

"But they are not children."

Sparks said that with passage of this law, minors would be tried in "general jurisdiction," the adult court versus going to juvenile court and having to wait out the process of a fitness hearing to stand as an adult.

The prison terms would be the same as those for adult offenders, instead of incarcerating them until 25 in the California Youth Authority.

He also noted that despite what the BC group said about children being thrown in jail with older criminals, the truth is that for a long sentence, minors would stay in a youth correctional facility until age 18.

Then the convicted offender would be placed in a regular prison with the general population.

Sparks said that he understands that people are morally against sending minors to jail, but he stated, "If they do the crime, they should do the time."

ELECTIONS: McCain's followers contemplate choice

Continued from Page 1

Kern County chairman for the McCain campaign.

Harper was speaking in reference to the impending retirement of two Supreme Court justices.

He isn't the only one basing his political allegiances on the imminent replacement of the two justices. McCain volunteer Larry Wigent wasn't sure where he'd commit his time and vote in the upcoming general election in light of McCain's loss.

"It's going to be a difficult decision, electing a Republican president will accordingly influence the course of jurisprudence for many years to come," Wigent said.

Does your campus group have an activity planned?

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More Power
Annual March Meet
revs up Kern County
dragster fans.
Sports, Page 5

Oscar Picks
Who will take home Oscar?
Only 'Sixth Sense' knows.
Features, Page 3



Sinking Ships?
Budget cuts hurt U.S.
military readiness.
Opinion, Page 2



THE RENEGADE RIP

Vol. 71 No. 5

Bakersfield College

March 17, 2000



Gas War

College students
battle fuel price
hikes at local pumps.

BY KARI SWEET
Rip staff writer

Gas prices have risen to an all-time high and Bakersfield College students are trying to keep up.

"It's ridiculous," said Lorraine Rangel, an administration of justice major at BC. "I think something should be done, but who do you complain to?"

Most drivers would agree that the prices are getting too high.

"We're actually losing money. The prices have gone up so high, and we can't raise our prices because no one will buy our gas," said Nassri Jaber, the owner of the Fastrip on University and Mt. Vernon avenues.

Many college students must commute everyday to school. Some commute from across town and others must drive from surrounding cities.

"They're ripping us off," said Erik Aguilor, a BC student. "We need gas to drive to school everyday."

Most college students do not have a lot of extra money left over after paying their bills. The Bakersfield Californian reported Wednesday that the price for gas has risen more than 27 cents a gallon in the last month. This sharp increase in gas prices means that students will have even less money.

The Californian reported that in March the statewide average gas price is \$1.70 for regular unleaded fuel.

There have been rumors of another "gas out," a plan for drivers to boycott gas for a few days. However, the last boycott failed to work because the people who participated bought gas the day before the scheduled event, which increased gas sales for that day.

"Nothing can really be done about it," said John Kirkman, another BC student, about the high prices.

See GAS, Page 6



Above, BC student Erik Aguilor, 19, fuels his car. Aguilor said that despite the high prices, he is forced to pay the large cost to get to his classes.

Left, gas prices continue to dramatically increase. Prices have gone up 27 cents in the last month. According to Greg Boyd of Wholesale Fuels, the increases are the result of decreased production in fuel supplying countries.

JOE SIMPSON / THE RIP

Leadership conference builds skills

BY LOVEY JOHNSTON
Rip staff reporter

Anyone can act as a leader, explained Autumn Nichols, a junior at Highland High School.

But it is nice to have guidelines on how to become one. That's why Nichols attended the 13th Annual Youth Leadership Conference at Bakersfield College Feb. 25.

Nichols, along with other students from local high schools with their advisers, were present for a day of workshops on conflict resolution, social responsibility, community partners and leadership and self esteem. The Bakersfield College Martin Luther King Jr. Center sponsored the conference.

"The part that really stuck out to me was when I went to a leadership workshop and the speaker there said that anyone could be a leader."

— Autumn Nichols, Highland student

"I went last year and it was nice. This year I thought it was going to be the same. The part that really stuck out to me was when I went to a leadership workshop and the speaker there said that anyone could be a leader," said Nichols. "The job (leadership) has to get done; somebody's got to do it."

Dr. Wilhelmina Anthony, director of the Martin Luther King Jr. Center, explained that the conference has been going on for 13 years.

The purpose of the event was to place students in workshops that involved teaching them leadership skills and having to solve hypothetical problems without it escalating to a violent situation. They were given situations from their everyday lives and from their environments.

"You assume that if you help young people to be first aware of the issues that are going on in their environment, their society, that you then help them to take on leadership roles and in dealing with their issues," said Anthony.

This year's conference was somewhat different from the past. The students were not with their usual friends. They were divided into smaller groups with other students from various high schools.

"A lot of the students were out of their comfort zone," said June Charles, program assistant at the MLK Jr. center. "They learned how to work together."

James Kennedy, sergeant at arms of the African American Student Union at BC, sat in on some of the workshops and stated that the speakers should've been people who have gone through the experience of the topic or issue that was being addressed.

"The youth were very enthusiastic. The majority of what I heard in the workshops were the speakers telling the students about how to stay away from gangs like that's the only problem the youth today have," said Kennedy.

"I think it would've made more sense to have gang members and ex-gang member's talk to the kids," he said.

Anthony agreed that students would respond more effectively to issues addressed by someone closer to their age and generation.

"What I think they mean from that is that they really like to hear more from folk that's closer to their age," she said.

See CONFERENCE, Page 6

BC engineering competition inspires creative, decorative off-road vehicles

BY KARI SWEET
Rip staff writer

Some were made of household products such as coffee cans, toys and rubber bands. Others were made of measuring tapes, mouse traps and hangers.

Vehicles that participated in the 15th annual engineering competition, held recently at East Hills Mall by the Bakersfield College Engineers' Club, were by far unique.

Participants in the event were required to build a vehicle with no motor and run it through an obstacle course.

The obstacle course, which resembled a miniature golf course, was a straight course, about 20 feet long and consisted of a large ramp where the cars began.

The vehicles hit 20 small bumps, a large hill and finished off in a sand pit.

The competition contained five divisions: junior high, high school, college, open and Lego. Awards were given for superior artistic design and superior engineering design.

Competitors were allowed one attempt to complete the obstacle course in the

shortest amount of time. Those that did not finish the course were measured for distance.

"We have this competition to celebrate National Engineering Week and mostly just for fun," said Joseph Gaines, vice president of the Engineering Club at BC.

The college division was canceled due to lack of competitors. The one participant, Dan Cronquist, a BC civil engineering major, was moved into the open division to compete.

"We had a good turnout this year, 71 people competed," said Cronquist, who also is a member of the Engineers' Club.

The open division consisted of 20 competitors. First place went to Richard Meyer for completing the course in the least amount of time.

Stockdale High School students took first and second place in the high school division. Out of the 35 participants that competed, only five completed the entire course.

Anood Meerza, Jessica Mather and Beverly Lewenya took first place as a team. Stockdale High School won a school of the year award for having the most participants

in the high school division.

Jordan Harrok of Lincoln Junior High won first place in the junior high division. Not one car in the junior high division completed the course.

Jordan's car won for going the farthest distance.

The Lego division was different than the rest because these vehicles were allowed to have computer chips that acted as motors. The Lego vehicles were much more advanced than the other divisions' vehicles.

Seventeen-year-old Mike Ackland won first place in the Lego division. He was one of three that completed the entire course.

Superior artistic design went to John Halbut.

To be eligible for best engineer design the vehicle had to complete the course.

Best engineer design in the professional field went to Meyer.

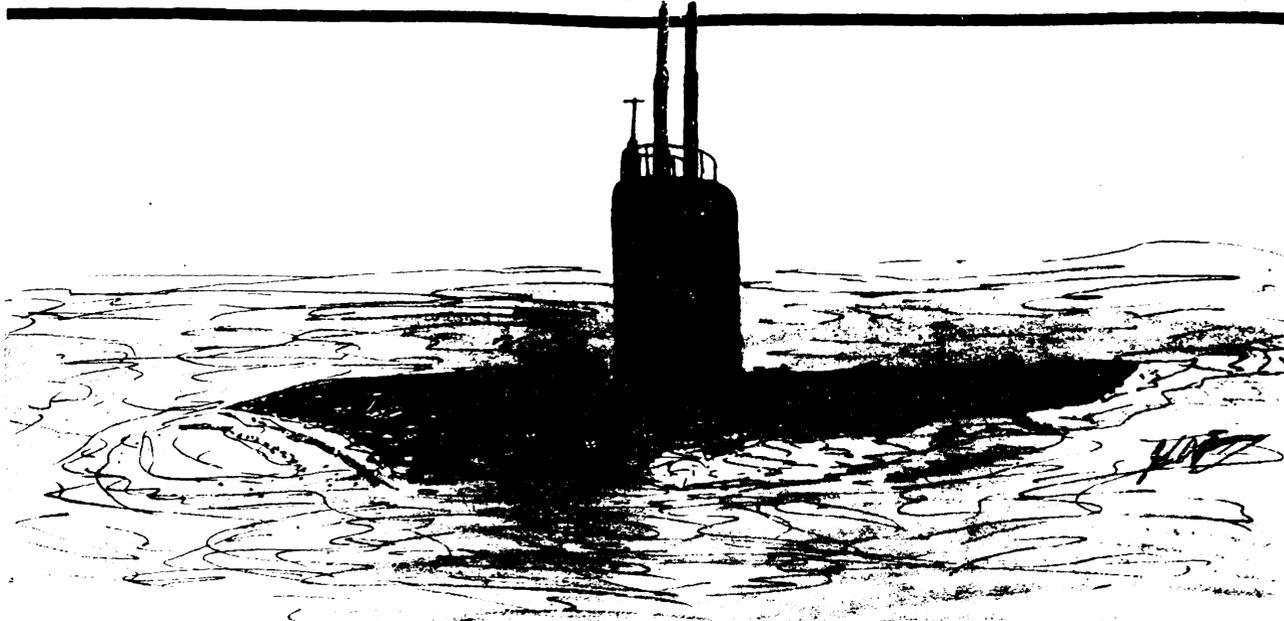
Best engineer design in the amateur field went to Geoff Kallenberger.

All the winners received a trophy and a gift bag from Texaco, which included a mouse pad, CD holder, pen and a water bottle.



MICHAEL D. ROSS / THE RIP

Richard Meyer, 47, checks the alignment of his vehicle prior to its launch. Meyer's and other vehicles faced an obstacle course of small bumps, one large hill and a sand pit before reaching the other end of the track. Meyer was one of a number of competitors during BC's annual engineering competition.



JOE SIMPSON / THE RIP

U.S. military readiness sinks in wake of budget cuts

BY JOE SIMPSON
Graphics Editor

"To be prepared for war is one of the most effective means of preserving peace."

These words are as true today as they were when George Washington spoke them in his first message to Congress. However, in the past decade the public view of the military has changed. Lately there has been a lull in recruitment, the military has been dramatically downsized and bases have been closed down left and right. Ever since the collapse of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War the public has no longer felt the need for a strong military.

But if the United States is going to police the world, it must also stay ready to defend itself in the event that someone would challenge us. Right now American men and women are serving in other countries, keeping the peace and providing a service of protection that we have promised. There is a growing concern in our nation as to whether our military is capable of handling two or more conflicts at once, or have we spread ourselves too thin?

In past years, when our military stood ready to defend us from the red plague of communism, we were at our peak of military readiness. The national defense was 7.5 percent of the gross domestic budget, according to statistics published in November 1999. During the Cold War billions of dollars were spent every year on research and

development of new tanks, planes, missiles and weapons to defend against anyone who might threaten the "American way of life."

However, military spending has been cut more than half since the 1980s. The national defense budget is now only 3 percent of the gross domestic product (approximately \$50 billion) and military readiness is questionable at best. On March 14, 1999 the House Armed Services Military Subcommittee recommended an additional \$2 billion go to the national defense budget. It was recommended that the national defense budget be raised a mere half a percent.

In an address to Congress, Subcommittee Chairman Herbert Bateman said, "I believe we are quickly moving from a point where we currently ask our military men and women to do more with less, to a point where we ask them to do more with nothing."

One does not need to look far to find proof that the Clinton administration has trimmed the military budget a bit too far. Take the production of the B-2 Stealth bomber, for example. The original plan was to build 132 B-2 bombers. The Clinton administration has limited

production to only 21 planes, with no plans to build any more bombers until 2037. At this time, the Air Force only has 200 intercontinental bombers for the next 40 years. Of the current bombers 90 percent are not stealth capable and over 30 percent of them are B-52s, already nearly 40 years old.

We need at least 70 attack submarines for current commitments. Right now the Navy only has 50, with many of them approaching retirement.

The Army plans to cease upgrades of the M-1A2 Abrams tank during this decade and any further tank production.

The government, as yet, has no firm plans as to when tank production will resume. Furthermore, no funding has been allotted for digital upgrades for existing tanks.

The Navy also is feeling the pinch of budget cuts. We need at least 70 attack submarines for current commitments. Right now the Navy only has 50, with many of them approaching retirement. Just 10 years ago, we had more than 100 attack submarines in our fleet, according to a January 2000 issue of "Defense Daily."

Not only are we falling behind in weaponry but our military is getting smaller and smaller. After the Gulf War we had a military downsizing. Thousands of Marines, soldiers, airmen and sailors were let out early. Many of them have tried to re-enlist. Yet once again

Clinton has fooled around with the military.

The Navy and Marines no longer take prior service recruits. That means the men and women who already have had tens of thousands of dollars spent on their training have been turned away. Now wouldn't it make sense to let veterans return to their old jobs, instead of spending dollars to train new recruits, especially with the personnel shortages that now plague each branch of our military?

Army Chief of Staff General Eric Shinseki said in the November 1999 issue of "U.S. News and World Report" that he has made proposals to develop new brigades for the next Kosovo. Shinseki decided there was a need after two other Army divisions failed their readiness tests during the conflict in Kosovo.

At this point our military is barely able to answer the call to one conflict. Heated debates over the possibility of "what if there were two hot spots at the same time?" have been presented on Capitol Hill in the last year. Experts say that we are not prepared for such an event.

The Navy is now contracting civilians to do some of the duties that sailors have always performed, such as cleaning or painting the ships. The Army is considering doing the same for its logistics computer work.

If you look back through history you will see that the rise and fall of every great empire can be correlated to the strength and weakness of its military. If America is to stay a superpower, it must keep a strong military.

ASBC prepares for student officer elections

BY TADEU PAULETTO SZPOGANICZ
ASBC Vice President of Activities

On April 3 to 7, the Associated Students of Bakersfield College will host its first Spring Fling of the millennium. Events planned for the week include a cow-milking contest, in which all of the participants get a gift, either a gift certificate or a milk shower.

Spring Fling is divided between five themes: international, Americorps, and "Let's Have Fun."

If you have not completed and turned in an application for an event, visit the Student

Activities office in Campus Center 4 as soon as possible.

A rally will be hosted on April 31 to introduce the list of candidates for each event. If you have further comments or questions, please feel free to contact me at 395-4355.

ASBC elections also are approaching. They will be held Tuesday, May 2, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and 5 to 7:30 p.m. and on Wednesday, May 3, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and 5 to 7:30 p.m.

Students interested in running for positions can pick up an application for candidacy in the ASBC office. Candidate applications are due by April 14 at 3 p.m. Qualified candidates can campaign from Monday, April 24 to Wednesday, May 3. During the election, write-in candidates are allowed.

The Associated Students of Bakersfield College is a student government organization responsible for representing the students.

The main role of ASBC is to strive to develop leadership among students as well as to battle for shared governance on the campus.

Other duties of the ASBC include sponsoring activities, raising funds for awards and scholarships, oversee clubs and much more. ASBC members are students who are advised by faculty. Its 25 positions are divided into three branches, the executive board, senate and justices.

The Inter-Club Council is another branch which involves campus clubs.

For more information, come by the ASBC office in Campus Center and a representative will be happy to assist you.

Student appreciates tutoring

I must say thank you, thank you, thank you to all of the teachers and teachers aides working in the labs at Bakersfield College.

I haven't been in school for many years and I cannot begin to tell you how appreciative I am of all the extra help I receive from the newly instituted labs on campus.

The hours work out perfectly for almost anyone's schedule. The staff is helpful, knowledgeable and most of all enthusiastic about what they are doing.

Kimberly Weston
BC Student

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

THE RENEGADE RIP

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Graphic Artist: Jon Riel

Kathy Freeman
Adviser

Robin Johnson
Business Manager

Rod Thornburg
Photo Technician

Casey Christie
Photo Adviser

1801 Panorama Dr., Bakersfield, Calif. 93305-0700
Telephone: (561) 395-4324

'GADE FEEDBACK

ARON VIETTI / THE RIP

How are you going to celebrate Women's History Month?

Megan Cole, English: "Write a letter to my mom and grandma."

Rob Parsons, Math Professor: "I teaching math for prospective elementary teachers and pointing out the important contributions by women to the field."

Nichole Stevens, Music: "I will show more respect for women by no longer dancing on table tops."

James McMillan, Theater: "By showing appreciation to all the women I know."

Jerha Barden, Human Services: "All girls slumber party where we celebrate our ovaries."



AMPAS

- "American Beauty"
- "The Cider House Rules"
- "The Insider"
- "The Sixth Sense"
- "The Green Mile"

Russell Crowe, "The Insider"

Richard Farnsworth, "The Straight Story"

Sean Penn, "Sweet and Lowdown"

Denzel Washington, "The Hurricane"

Annette Bening, "American Beauty"

Janet McTeer, "Tumbleweeds"

Julianne Moore, "The End of the Affair"

Meryl Streep, "Music of the Heart"

Hilary Swank, "Boys Don't Cry"

Toni Collette, "The Sixth Sense"

Angelina Jolie, "Girl Interrupted"

Catherine Keener, "Being John Malkovich"

Samantha Morton, "Sweet and Lowdown"

Chloe Sevigny, "Boys Don't Cry"

Michael Caine, "The Cider House Rules"

Tom Cruise, "Magnolia"

Michael Clarke Duncan, "The Green Mile"

Jude Law, "The Talented Mr. Ripley"

Haley Joel Osment, "The Sixth Sense"



PHOTO COURTESY OF DREAMWORKS



PHOTO COURTESY OF WARNER BROTHERS



PHOTO COURTESY OF MIRAMAX FILMS

And the envelope please ...

With the Academy Awards looming, everyone's asking who will the Oscar go to?

BY BRYAN SWAIM
Rip staff writer

1999 proved to be a good year for Hollywood. Aside from "Star Wars," audiences were found in theaters seeing dead people in "The Sixth Sense" or falling down the pit of despair and into redemption with Kevin Spacey in "American Beauty."

This is quite a change from the usual asteroids or aliens and for once, audiences have actually seen what is nominated in the 72nd annual Academy Awards. In a year where Oscar nominations were so evenly distributed over many movies, the Oscars are looking to be an interesting show.

The much admired "American Beauty" leads the awards with eight nominations, fairly low compared to usual front runners. The most

critically acclaimed film of the year stars Kevin Spacey and Annette Bening as husband and wife in a typical nuclear family where everything is falling apart. The black comedy-tragedy already won best picture at "The Golden Globes" and is nominated for the big four: best picture, actor, actress and director.

"The Cider House Rules," starring Charlize Theron and Tobey Maguire, followed with seven nominations including best picture. "The Insider," with the strong Oscar backing of Disney also grabbed seven nominations while the audience favorite, "The Sixth Sense," came out with six. The final best picture nominee, "The Green Mile," earned four nominations. Look for a big win for "American Beauty," which was favored by critics and audiences alike.

In the best actor category, it seems to be a toss up between Denzel Washington, "The Hurricane" and Kevin Spacey, "American Beauty." Other nominees include Russell Crowe, "The Insider," Sean Penn, "Sweet and Lowdown" and Richard Farnsworth, "The Straight Story." Notably absent from this year's Golden Globe. Other nominees include Annette Bening, "American Beauty," Julianne Moore, "The End of the Affair," and Janet McTeer,

shutout for Carrey, who last year was ignored for "The Truman Show." Washington should get this Oscar. The Academy likes bio-pics and Washington gave one of the best performances of the year. Meryl Streep tied record-holder

"Tumbleweeds." Look for Hilary Swank to win. It's a great career boosting role which the Academy shouldn't ignore.

Rounding out the big four is for best director, where "American Beauty" director Sam Mendes should have a lock. Independent favorite Spike Jonze surprised audiences when the witty "Being John Malkovich" also grabbed a nomination as did Michael Mann, "The Insider," "M. Night Shyamalan," "Sixth Sense," and Lasse Hallstrom, "Cider House Rules." Notably absent was Frank Darabont, director of "The Green Mile." With his absence in this category, "The Green Mile" will not get the win for best picture.

The best supporting actor category will be one of the most interesting. You have Tom Cruise, "Magnolia," who the academy has nominated to give an award to since "Born on the Fourth of July," Haley Joel Osment, "The Sixth Sense," who has made a big impression as being the youngest actor ever nominated, is also a front runner. Michael Clarke Duncan, "The Green Mile," received nothing but raves, and can also be a favorite. Jude Law, "The Talented Mr. Ripley" and Michael Caine, "The Cider House

Rules" will be left out of this one. It's close, but I would put my money on Tom Cruise.

The very hot Angelina Jolie, "Girl, Interrupted" should take home an Oscar for best supporting actress. Her competition are mostly unknowns, including, Chloe Sevigny, "Boys Don't Cry," Toni Collette, "The Sixth Sense," Catherine Keener, "Being John Malkovich," and Samantha Morton, "Sweet and Lowdown."

Although "American Beauty" seems to be the front runner at the moment, this year's Academy Award lineup offers the most unpredictable choices for a winner in years. Although "American Beauty" has Dreamworks' backing, so did "Saving Private Ryan," which didn't win last year. "The Cider House Rules," while coming out of nowhere, is backed by Miramax, the studio responsible for "Shakespeare in Love," and "The English Patient," which are past winners. One thing is for certain. Though the only sure thing is no sure thing.

The 72nd Annual Academy Awards can be seen Sunday, March 26. Billy Crystal will host this year's show for the seventh time and there won't be any dance numbers... thank God.

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Oscars roll out the red carpet for today's latest fashions, styles

BY STEPHANY BULLARD
Rip staff writer

According to costume designer and stylist Brenda Cooper from E! Television's show "Fashion Emergency," this year's fashions for actresses at the Academy Awards are expected to be snug colorful dresses with plunging necklines, halter backs, see-through mesh, extreme side slits, backless or backless styles. Actors are expected to

don stylish suits, loose tuxes and Armani suits with brightly hued shirts and candy colored ties. It's plain to see after the Golden Globes and the Emmys that the stars' personal wardrobe stylists will be working overtime. The idea when dressing stars for such awards is to do something unexpected and more daring each year.

According to fashion designer Randolph Duke, in years past the Oscar fashions were all about glitz and glamour. This year the styles have more to do with showing the stars personalities and being daring in their looks. Last weekend on E! Television, Duke took viewers behind the scenes to see what he looks for when dressing stars for the Oscars. The goal, for Duke, is to have a dress that an actress wears that leaves a memorable impression on the crowd.

"One of the best parts about awards fashions is that they are never what you expect," he said, during the show.

In the spring 2000 issue of the new magazine McCall's Star Style, many designers and fashion critics took part in the Oscar extravaganza that the magazine featured. The extravaganza featured sections where stylists and designers talked about what some of the hottest stars should wear and stars talking about what goes into dressing for Oscar night.

In the Star Styles section where designers and stylists talked about what stars should wear, star stylist Phillip Bloch thought that since Catherine Zeta Jones' star was on the rise that she should add to her allure this year. But whether the actress will reveal much is anyone's guess. "She's really into clothes and loves getting dressed up," he said. Bloch envisions her in a turquoise halter gown.

Famed designer Betsey Johnson said that Gwyneth Paltrow should swap her pale pink gown that she wore last year and wear bright pink. "I'd add a few curves with a big corset-type ball gown," said Johnson.

Although the actors and actresses will no doubt be in exuberant and stylish fashions complete with accessories and jewelry, the best thing to possibly accompany their total look will be the little golden man they all want to take home.

Can't Be Matched

Frosh player gives all on tennis court for women's team

BY LEANNE CAVE
Sports Editor

Tennis is the sport of a lifetime, according to Jenny Cabe, a 19-year-old Bakersfield College freshman.

"The great thing about playing tennis is that you can play it even when you are 70 years old," she said.

Cabe is currently playing in the No. 2 position on the BC tennis team. In a recent match against Allan Hancock, she endured a three-hour match that she eventually lost 6-3, 6-7, (7-5, 6-4).

"She is extremely intense when she competes," said coach Rob Slaybaugh. "She leaves it all out on the court."

This was especially true against Hancock, as it took a tie-breaker to finally settle the score in a tough, competitive match.

Besides tennis, Cabe also enjoys singing. She was in the Chamber Singers (concert choir) at North High for three years. In 1995-96, she was voted most outstanding freshman. In 1998-99, she was chosen as "Outstanding Vocal Contributor" as a part of the Advanced Women's Ensemble. She was chosen to sing the National Anthem at the 1999 North High School commencement exercises.

These days if you attend a Bakersfield Condors hockey game, you might hear Cabe sing the National Anthem, as she has sung it several times this season.

Cabe is one of five North High players on this year's BC team.

"Five of the 10 girls here I played with at North, so we are pretty close knit," she said. "When I first decided to play tennis, it was because of my parents," said Cabe.

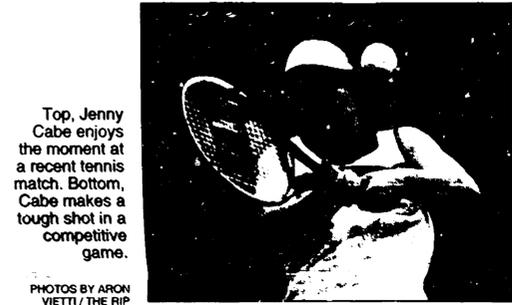
"My dad played on a pretty consistent basis and my mom played when she went to North High. So I decided to play. I've only been playing for about five or six years."

She played all four years at North High. Her senior year she played No. 1 singles for the Stars.

Her junior and senior years she received the "Most Inspirational" award.

"Mark Van Voorhis was my coach at NHS," she said.

"He had a tremendous positive influence on my tennis career, he was extremely supportive and generous of his time. My senior year we also had Scott Lockwood (the



Top, Jenny Cabe enjoys the moment at a recent tennis match. Bottom, Cabe makes a tough shot in a competitive game.

PHOTOS BY ARON VIETTI/THE RIP

BC men's coach). He instilled in me many valuable mental skills that have improved my game tremendously."

Slaybaugh described Cabe as supportive of her teammates.

"Jenny really works hard, she is out there everyday at 1:30 and is one of the last girls to leave."

"She is always trying to keep the girls going by motivating and encouraging them."

Cabe's doubles partner, Brenda Knick, has been a close friend for seven years.

"It's awesome that we all get along," said Cabe. "To me that is more important than if we win, because you can be the best team in the world, but it really doesn't matter if no one gets along."

Cabe said she chose to go to BC because of financial reasons.

"I did not want to pay a lot of money to go somewhere else, when I didn't even know what I wanted to do. General education is the same wherever you go. Playing tennis at BC has been an awesome experience for me. I have learned so much in the last few months and have really developed a love for the game."

Cabe is employed at Macy's Department Store, where she puts in 15-16 hours a week. Cabe said she might pursue merchandizing or public relations as a career. She maintains a 3.3 GPA.

"This is one girl with a tight schedule," said Donna Cabe, Jenny's mother. "Whatever she does she is focused and she gets the job done. We are very proud of her."

BC track teams quicken pace in race to state title

BY RICHARD D. WHIPPLE
Rip staff writer

It seems like the only rough competition that the Bakersfield College men and women track and field teams have encountered this Western State Conference season is the weather.

That's what West Los Angeles and Glendale College found out March 3 at a cold and wet Memorial Stadium as the Gades dominated their respective mini-meets once again. The BC men's team scored 107 points to West L.A.'s 41 and Glendale's 34 while the BC women scored 88 points to West L.A.'s 59 and Glendale's 17.

In a previous WSC mini-meet Feb. 17, the Gades went to Antelope Valley and, in the cold and wind, ran over the competition as BC dominated the heats and Allan Hancock.

In that meet, the Gades men scored 108 points to AVC's 47 and Hancock's 5, while the women scored 119 points to AVC's 20 and Hancock's 10.

BC men's coach Bob Covey is pleased with the team's performance, but says there is room for improvement.

"We're undefeated, which is good," said Covey. "We're seeing typical early season stuff where our guys aren't really in great shape yet and that's to be expected. Our team is doing where we like to be at this time of the year and we're just going to have to just keep working hard and developing."

BC women's coach Pam Kelley echoed those sentiments.

"We know we can have some good meets and compete, but we got to really buckle down and get some of our field events up there," said Kelley. "We're not competing as strong as we should be in those (events)."

Amanda Harvey has been a bright spot for the Gades as the defending state champion broke her own BC record in the shot put with a throw of 45-3 and setting a new Gades record in the hammer throw, 157-11.

Both marks were set at Antelope Valley.

In the home meet, Harvey did not top those figures; nevertheless, she finished first in the shot put 39-3, discus, 124-9 and the hammer throw, 145-7.



FRANCIS C. MAYER/THE RIP
Araldo Gueto lets shot put fly.

According to Harvey, she is pleased with her performances this season.

"It's really cool because I've improved so much from last year," said Harvey.

"It's just kind of a preview of what I can do this year, how much better I can do. I'm real excited about it."

Sophomore Jennifer Bell and freshman Erin Stewart have also turned in stellar performances for the Gades. Bell in the high jump and 100-meter hurdles and Stewart in the heptathlon.

For the BC men, sophomores Michael Prestridge and Nathan Huggins have been the shining stars as Prestridge had first-place finishes in the javelin and the shot put in both WSC meets this season and Huggins was victorious in the 200 and 400-meters at Antelope Valley.

According to BC hurdler Nick Ray, the experience of Prestridge and Huggins will benefit the rest of the team.

"Last year, we were kind of young and we really didn't know what was out there," said Ray.

"This year, we know and it's all there for the taking. We just got to go get it."

The Gades will compete at Memorial Stadium today at 5:30 p.m. in the Bakersfield College Invitational Relays at Memorial Stadium. The relays continue Saturday at 9 a.m.



LEFT: Bob Lander smokes his tires in preparation for his race. Drag racers burn the rubber off their tires onto the track in strips to increase friction at take off. Lander was the runner-up in the Nostalgia II class last weekend.

Burning Rubber

March Meet, car show attracts Kern County crowds.

The drag racers sit at the starting line, looking out at the quarter mile stretch in front of them. In just a few seconds it will all be over. The lights flash, the pedal drops and they're off.

A force well over 2 g's hits the racers' bodies as they travel 60 feet in just over a second, accelerating to speeds up to 260 miles per hour. More than 200 decibels of engine noise fill their ears. And in roughly six seconds, the race is finished.

It's an experience that Jack Williams, former drag racer and grand marshal of this year's March Meet drag races, which were held Saturday and Sunday, had trouble explaining.

"You're in another world," he said. "It's astronomical. It's unbelievable. A person just can't visualize it."

The March Meet is held annually at Famoso Raceway by the Goodguys Rod & Custom Association.

The races host traditional-style dragsters from primarily the 1960s and 1970s, but the cars must meet modern safety standards.

According to Williams, the races actually began in 1959, but it wasn't until seven years ago that Goodguys took control. Williams said the March Meet, however, always has drawn large audiences from all across the nation.

"All through the years it was the largest independently promoted drag race of the National Hot Rod Association," he said.

Dale Suhr, co-owner of the Suhr racing team and resident of Iowa, has attended the March Meet for the last 15 years to watch the races. This year, Suhr decided to bring his team's top fuel dragster to compete.

"As a kid in the sixties, I used to read a lot about the races in magazines, so this is just something we always wanted to run," he said.

And according to Williams, the races still attract immense crowds.

"It's not really a race anymore, it's a happening," he said. "We joke and say this is the Woodstock of drag racing."



LEFT: Tommy Thompson of the Suhr racing team removes clutch housing plates to check for damage.

CENTER: Dale Suhr oils the engine of his top fuel dragster in between races.

TOP: The event also featured a car show that drew the attention of many spectators.

ABOVE: This 1962 Corvette was among the many classic cars on display in the show and shine.

Photos and Story by Michael D. Ross

SPORTS CALENDAR

Men's and Women's Track

Friday, March 17
BC Invitational Relays
Races 5:30 - 7:20 p.m.
Saturday, March 18
BC Invitational Relays
Field Events 9:15 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.
Track Races 9:30 a.m. - 6:20 p.m.

Women's Tennis

Tuesday, March 21
Glendale College 2 p.m.
Thursday, March 23
Citrus College 2 p.m.

Men's Tennis

Tuesday, March 21
Glendale College @ BC 2 p.m.
Thursday, March 23
Citrus College @ BC 2 p.m.

Women's Softball

Friday, March 17-19
Fresno Tournament
Buchanan High TBA
Tuesday, March 21
Citrus @ BC 2:30 p.m.
Thursday, March 23
BC @ Canyons 2:30 p.m.

Men's Baseball

Saturday, March 18
L.A. Valley @ Van Nuys 1 p.m.
Tuesday, March 21
College of Canyons @ Valencia 2 p.m.
Thursday, March 23
Glendale @ BC 2 p.m.

Golf

Monday, March 20
WSC/Santa Barbara
La Purisima 11 a.m.

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BC Event Schedule
Women's History Month
"Maid to Order: Changing Race Relations in Three Women's Films"
March 17
2:30-5 p.m.
Pat Thompson, viewing and discussion.
FA 30
March 18
9:30 a.m.-noon
FA 30
The Long Walk Home, second film in the series. Pat Thompson, viewing and discussion.
March 18
1:30-3:30 p.m.
FA 30
Passion Fish, third film in the series. Pat Thompson, viewing and discussion.
March 20
7-9 p.m.
FA 30
"Not For Ourselves Alone: A Viewing Party." Part 1: film/discussion of Ken Burns' latest documentary on the lives of Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony. Pat Thompson
March 21
7-9 p.m.
FA 30
"Not For Ourselves Alone: A Viewing Party." Part 2: film/discussion of Ken Burns' latest documentary on the lives of Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony. Pat Thompson
March 21
noon-1:30 p.m.
FA 30
"WomanSpeak," Sarah Gundersen & BC students. Enactments/Discussion. Contemporary women interview women from the past.
March 22
noon-1 p.m.
Fireside Room
"Gender Communication in the Workplace." Lynn Krause and Chuck Wall. Discussion
March 23
7-9 p.m.
TBA
"An Interview with Hillary and Eleanor," Susan Boyd, Sarah Gundersen, and Ann Wiederrecht. Share an interview with these two First Ladies.
March 24
10:30 a.m.-noon
LA219
"Do you have to Shave Your Head, Wear Orange Robes and Meditate to Experience Happiness?" Holyoke Davajan and Kathy Rosellini.
March 28
noon-1:30 p.m.
Fireside Room
"Trifles," Greg Chamberlain, Carol Cunningham, Merrin Palitz and Hank Webb.
6:30-9:30 p.m.
TBA
"Elizabeth Regina," Hank Webb and Lynne Hall. View and discuss the feature film, Elizabeth.
March 29
7-8 p.m.
Fireside Room
"The Dinosaur: Lady Goes on a Dig," Inez Devlin-Kelly. Interactive lecture for children, 5+ and their parents, all ages welcome.

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'GADE NEWSLINE

WHAT'S HAPPENING WHERE & WITH WHOM

Douglas Rushkoff to speak at college

Douglas Rushkoff, author, columnist and media theorist, will be the Wiley Jones Eminent Speaker in the Indoor Theater on Thursday, April 6 at 7:30 p.m. and on Friday, April 7 at 10 a.m.

He is author of seven books on new media and popular culture, including "Cyberia," "Media Virus," "Playing the Future," and the novel "Ecstasy Club." His newest book is "Coercion: Why We Listen to What 'They' Say."

He does commentaries on NPR's "All Things Considered" and writes a monthly column on cyberculture for the New York Times Syndicate.

He is a professor of media culture at New York University's Interactive Telecommunications Program.

Ensemble to perform concert Sunday

The Wind Ensemble will present a concert entitled "The Essence of Spring," 4 p.m. Sunday at St. John's Lutheran Church, 912 New Stine Road.

The concert will feature works by Leonard Bernstein, H. Owen Reed and Samuel Barber and will include a special tribute to Aaron Copeland featuring the Bakersfield College Brass Choir.

Tickets are \$5 general admission, \$3 for students and seniors and children under 12 are free. For ticket information call the Bakersfield College Ticket Office at 395-4326.

Proceeds benefit Bakersfield College music scholarships.

Chamber to play at BC Indoor Theater

The Chamber Orchestra will present a spring concert entitled, "A Touch of Class, 2000," 4 p.m. Sunday, March 28 at the BC Indoor Theater.

Under the direction of Robert Martinez, the Chamber Orchestra will perform with Patrick Bender, the winner of the first annual Kern County Young Artist Concerto Competition. Bender will perform the "Concerto for Piano and Orchestra" by Aram Knochaturian.

Tickets are \$5 general admission, \$3 for students and seniors and children under 12 are free. For ticket information call the Bakersfield College Ticket Office at 395-4326.

Proceeds benefit BC music scholarships.



MARK RILEY / THE RIP

TOP TEN ITEMS ON PRESIDENT CLINTON'S RESUME

10. 1986-89: Body Double for Pillsbury Doughboy.
9. 1973: Voted Yale Law School "Most Weasely."
8. References available upon subpoena.
7. June 1988: Secretly married Carmen Electra.
6. Career objective: Keeping my fat ass out of prison.
5. 1997 Winner of the Golden Moonshine Jug for Outstanding Hillbilly Achievement.
4. Executive Director, American Society of Bubbas.
3. 1997: Cruiser Tester, Winchell's Donuts.
2. Proud father of over 200 students at Little Rock Junior High.
1. Can lie fluently in seven languages.

Reprinted with permission from "The Late Show" with David Letterman

Rubes By Leigh Ruben



"I'm all for being environmentally responsible, but perhaps we should rethink our position on water conservation."



MICHAEL D. ROSS / THE RIP

Head-On Collision

Two students were injured Monday at 1 p.m. when their cars collided at Haley and Princeton streets. Both were taken to Kern Medical Center for treatment.

CONFERENCE: Event aims at building leadership skills

Continued from Page 1

In the past, Ebony Counseling Center has collaborated with BC by sending school-age students to perform plays that display and characterize some issues for today's youth.

This was not done this year. Demetria Stephens, a senior at

Highland High School, said, "It first looked boring, having to go to the different classes, but it was really interesting."

"This program should continue ... they'll (students) probably learn things that they didn't know how to handle in a proper manner," said Stephens.

"I really enjoyed myself."

GAS: Students struggle to keep up with higher prices

Continued from Page 1

Others would argue that something should be done.

"The leaders of the gas companies could get together and fix production to match consumption," said Susie Taylor, a BC student.

The main question is why are gas prices getting so high? Not many people understand who sets the prices and who is raising them.

"We import our gas from other countries, and Venezuela, one of our major importers, has cut back production by 2 million barrels," said Greg Boyd, a truck driver for Wholesale Fuels, who was filling gas tanks at the Mt. Vernon and

University Fastrip.

Most people have no choice but to pay the high gas prices, but for many students it is becoming too high to afford. One exception was Celso Ramirez, an accounting major at BC.

"I'm not really satisfied with the gas prices, but I'm not really concerned either," he said. "It's been really low for years. Increasing the prices doesn't bother me much."

But many others out there are not satisfied with the gas prices, and they are going to continue to rise, especially with holidays and summer just around the corner.



The radio has a bent antenna with yellow tape around it, rubber bands around it to keep it together and a metal college identification plate on it.

BY JOSE PIMENTEL
Rip staff writer

Fake dollar reported to campus police

A fake one dollar bill was reported March 8 at Business Services. When the money was counted, the one dollar bill changed colors when it was marked with the counterfeit pen.

Staff radio stolen from staffer's cart

On March 14, a BC employee reported that his hand-held Motorola radio had been taken. He had parked his cart under a pecan tree to help fix a broken sprinkler at about 12:30 p.m. The radio was left in the cart. When he returned to his cart at about 1 p.m. he noticed the radio missing.

Police respond to call of injured student

On March 15 at 10 a.m. security was called to the Science and Engineering building to handle a report of an injured female student. Campus police met with the nurse who informed them that she was going to transport the injured student to the health center to be examined by the doctor.

Campus police offers escorts to parked cars

The Bakersfield College campus police will escort anyone to their vehicles at night.

Students on campus after dark needing an escort to their vehicles can call campus police at 395-4554 or 395-4555. Campus officers recommend that students, faculty and staff use this service.

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Spring 2000 BC Graduation Filing Deadline is Monday, April 3

Students planning on completing their degrees in Spring 2000 should file for graduation now. Applications are available at window #6 in the Admissions & Records Office.

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Call 395-4324 or e-mail us at ripmail@bc.cc.ca.us.

UC Santa Cruz Representative on Campus

Wed., March 29
10 a.m. - Noon
Campus Center Foyer

STUDENTS—
If you are thinking of transferring to UCSC, get your transfer questions answered here.
Information on majors offered at UCSC also available.

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Rock of Ages
KISS still wows crowds after 25 years.
Features, Page 3

Staying on Track
Renegades excel during recent BC invitational.
Sports, Page 5



Discriminating Costs
Government officials finally pay in landmark civil rights settlement.
Opinion, Page 2



THE RENEGADE RIP

Vol. 71 No. 6

Bakersfield College

March 31, 2000

Rushkoff to discuss new media

BY ERIN M. LOPEZ
Features Editor

Douglas Rushkoff has no problem writing about oral sex or getting buddy-buddy with San Francisco bloodsuckers — people who pretend they're vampires as a part of the role-playing game Camarilla. The 39-year-old also has no problem cranking out writing on a variety of topics, whether it's columns ranging from technology to sex, novels or nonfiction books on various types of media. But somehow, amid all this writing, he garnered the label of "social theorist."



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CALIFORNIA

Rushkoff

"I'm really a writer and I guess since what I wrote ended up becoming social theory, people started to call me a social theorist and treating me like one," said Rushkoff during a phone interview from New York Wednesday.

Not that you can blame them. Rushkoff, who is a monthly columnist for the New York Times, a professor of media culture at New York University and a commentator on National Public Radio's "All Things Considered," has written seven books, mostly dealing with media and how it affects daily life and vice versa.

Rushkoff will be on campus Thursday as the Bakersfield College Foundation's Wiley Logan Jones Eminent Speaker. A 5:30 p.m. reception is planned, followed by a 7:30 p.m. lecture in the Indoor Theater. Tickets for the reception and lecture cost \$25 each, with \$10 for a lecture-only general public ticket and \$5 for a lecture-only student ticket. On Friday, he will give a free 10 a.m. lecture for students and faculty in the Indoor Theater. Thursday's lecture deals with technological teens, called screenagers by Rushkoff, while Friday's topic is "Chaos is Your Friend."

Rushkoff has no problem writing about a variety of topics from the technological to the bizarre. He discussed some of his more interesting columns.

In one of his columns, Rushkoff details an oral sex experience and the need for STD etiquette, while in another he writes about meeting San Francisco vampires. Both columns are posted on his website.

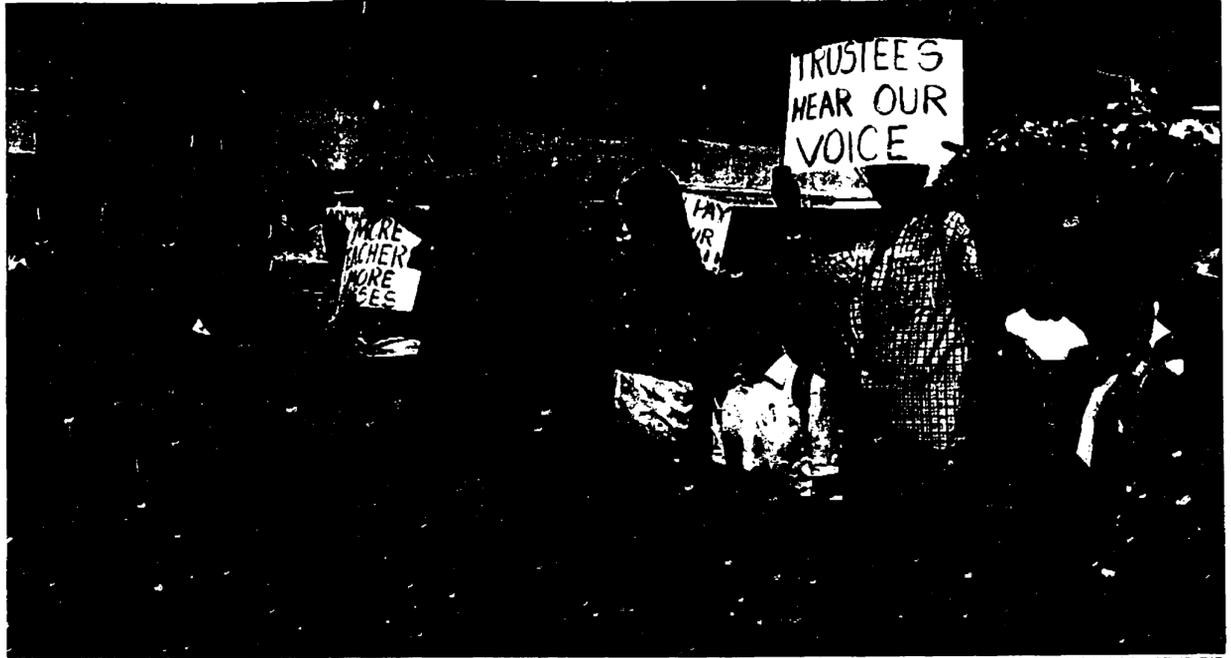
Commenting on his STD column, he said he believes most college graduates have experienced oral sex and there was a need for a column on how to broach the topic of sexually transmitted diseases with someone in a relationship. But to those who feel the topic is taboo, he advised reading Ernest Hemingway, Virginia Woolf or D.H. Lawrence. "Writers have been writing about sex for a very long time," he said.

But what about San Francisco vampires? For this, he suggests putting yourself into the shoes of a writer.

"If you came upon a bunch of people who dress up as vampires every Friday night and pretend to suck each other's blood and you were a writer, wouldn't you want to write about that or not? You just live a life and if you live with an eye towards the interesting, you know, you'll go down a few interesting alleyways."

He prefers to be known as a writer than be labeled a social theorist. Writing is a challenge for him, he said, because "it was the subject I was worst in at school."

Rushkoff noticed things others weren't noticing. "I felt like I was seeing something that other people weren't seeing... whether it was the very beginnings of the Internet and rave culture and fantasy role-playing games and the beginning of video game culture. And there seemed to be a lot of different worlds from new physics to chaos math... where there was one thing going on, and to me it all looked like it was a part of the same movement, the same kind of experience and that's this sort of non-linear experience. Almost a psychedelic way of seeing the world, and I wanted to try to explain what that experience was in words, which seemed like a big challenge because, you know, words are so linear."



JOE SIMPSON / THE RIP

Students rally for faculty pay

Protest attracts 150 students during trustees' visit.

BY E. MICHAEL LEDFORD
Rip staff writer

Amid chants such as "Trustees, hear our voice! Higher pay, it's your choice!" and buttons that proclaimed that "Higher education does not equal lower pay," students organized a protest against college officials who they believe treat its faculty unfairly.

Student government President Tracey Mitchell led the protest last Thursday, March 16 in front of the administration building to help resolve a contract dispute for teachers. About 150 students participated in the protest, which coincided with the Board of Trustees' annual visit.

Salaries for Kern Community College District teachers rank near the bottom of 71 community colleges, according to union officials. The teacher's union has been negotiating for a pay hike with district officials, but district officials maintain KCCD has no money for raises.

"We want to keep our faculty, but we know that a lot of them are seeking employment elsewhere because they are not making the average pay," said Mitchell. "We want them to have the pay that they need so that we can keep them and we can attract other top instructors."

Mitchell believes that low salaries has affected the quality of the education at BC.

"You go into the classrooms and

you see instructors that are less motivated than they used to be," she said. "They are tired. Their workload is such that they have to rush through to do. They aren't getting paid enough for what they do. There are less quizzes, some classes don't go on field trips, anymore. These are extra things the instructors do. We want those things."

The protest was run by students and student government officials. BC art major Phala Chhim heard about the protest in her psychology class.

"I'm majoring in art and want to be an art teacher," she said, "but I would like to be paid just as high as any other paid professional."

Faculty member Harry Wilson called his 30 years at BC "far too long." He believes that salaries have been declining for the last 15 years.

"When I was hired, the pay was one of the higher in the state, and now we're virtually at the bottom," said Wilson. "I've seen the degradation of this institution year after year after year. Not only the faculty, but the buildings are falling apart. I'm embarrassed to show my students the lab. We can't count on custodial services. It takes like a year to get a light replaced if it burns out. That's ridiculous."

Besides the recent protest, the faculty has made numerous attempts to encourage the board of trustees to



JOE SIMPSON / THE RIP

Above, students gather outside the administration building to rally for higher wages for faculty. Left, Dr. Sandra Serrano, Dr. Robert Allison and Trustee Harvey Hall meet with students.

approve a better contract. They have picketed, held rallies and addressed the board, all of which has met with "lip service, stalling, delaying and

further ignoring us," according to Wilson.

"We've done it all except for strike," said Wilson. "I think that's probably what they need to hear, is that we're thinking about strike."

Inez Devlin-Kelly, chair of the union negotiations committee, believes that a strike is a possibility if a middle ground isn't met soon.

"We don't want to hurt students, and that would hurt students right now," said Devlin-Kelly. "On the other hand, because we care about students and we want the hurting to stop, we would be willing to do that and inconvenience the student for a week or however long it would take, in order to ensure that they would get a quality education in the long haul."

Diane Clerou, assistant chancellor for human resources and a district negotiator, could not be reached for comment Wednesday afternoon.

Dr. John Gerhold, president of the faculty union, said that an inconvenience for students will eventually help them.

"This is a faculty that takes its responsibility towards students very seriously, and many of them view labor agitation as somehow hurting their students," said Gerhold. "They need to realize that in order to save our students we need to improve salary and working conditions for faculty."

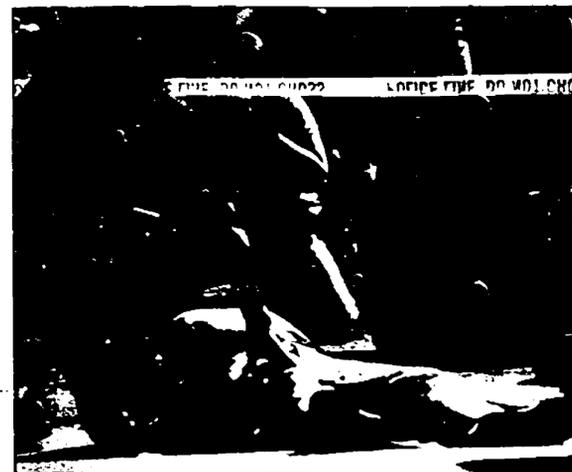
Mitchell, however, says that the student body is against a strike, and would "protest that, too."

Trustee and mayor-elect Harvey Hall said that the board has put pressure on the administrators to reach an agreement soon.

"There is a process which has to take place, and we're in the throws of that at the present time," said Hall, "but the trustees have made it very clear to district administrators that we don't want a long duration of negotiations and we want to work towards a resolution."

District negotiators have offered a three-year proposal with no salary increase in the first two years and a 1 percent salary increase by the third year. A cost-of-living increase of 2.84 percent would be offered the second year if certain conditions were met. The COLA also would be offered the third year in addition to the 1 percent.

The faculty rejected the proposal. "In actuality, if you look at their numbers, it was a .97 percent pay raise," she said. "They want to make it possible to assign us night and weekend classes against our will. We look at that as a real erosion of the few rights we have."



ARON VIETTI / THE RIP

J-Day began with a staged auto accident for the on-the-spot news writing and news photo events.

Journalism conference features realistic events

BY RICHARD D. WHIPPLE
Rip staff writer

Alan Jackson's "Here in the Real World" could have been the theme song to this year's BC High School Journalism Day.

That's because the highlights of J-Day, which took place March 23, focused on real people in reality-based situations. About 150 students from 11 high schools participated in the annual event sponsored by the BC journalism program and The Bakersfield Californian.

The day began for the aspiring journalists and photographers at a mock traffic accident. BC drama students Aaron Mauldin and Kellie Griffith staged a scenario where pedestrian Mauldin was hit by a speeding truck driven by Griffith.

The high school staffers covered the incident as if it really occurred.

Griffith said that the staged accident looked authentic enough to scare some of the students. But the real authenticity came when attorney Tom Morgan spoke in the Forum East building later that day.

Morgan was a sheriff's deputy for the county 16 years when a suspected gang member ended his career and nearly his life by shooting Morgan in the throat with a shotgun on April 15, 1997. Ten years prior, he was stabbed while taking a suspect into custody, yet recovered. Morgan used a microphone to help students hear him. He discussed the shooting that nearly killed him.

"If someone said that in a month, someone would try to kill you, what would you do? You would prepare

for the confrontation. The difference between this scenario and being a police officer is that as a police officer, you don't know the date when someone is trying to kill you."

He then displayed his sheriff's uniform, still stained in blood, that he wore the night of the shooting.

"The morning I went to work, the uniform was in the closet. It's just been dry cleaned. I never realized that at the end of the day, that it would look like this, for no other reason that you got a badge on your chest. I ask you to hang this shirt in your mind. It's not some dry description in a newspaper somewhere. It's real."

Morgan said that he brought the shirt to court as part of his victim statement to create empathy. Reporters also need empathy and

perspective, he said.

"Eventually, someday that's the sort of thing that you're going to be writing about. I hope when you're writing about it, you're thinking about the people that you're writing about and what's really happening to them, not some dry antiseptic, indifferent description, but real people with real lives."

The accident and Morgan's speech were two of five on-the-spot events. Tehachapi High School's newspaper, The Warrior, won first place in the front page layout and the general excellence categories.

"It's been eight years (that) I've been working on the paper," said Alex Robb, adviser of The Warrior. "Working that hard, there's been a lot of ups and downs and we finally made it."

Expensive Justice

After 23 years, the U.S. government settles a landmark sex discrimination case for more than \$500 million

BY DANIEL HUNT
Opinion Editor

Since sex discrimination became more noticed in the early '80s, news headlines and television soundbites have been filled with claims of wrongdoing against women.

But one recent headline stands out. The United States government and the now defunct U.S. Information Agency have settled a sexual discrimination lawsuit that started more than 20 years ago. This suit was originally filed in 1977. The claim: that experienced and seasoned female broadcasters with graduate degrees applied for jobs with Voice of America, the radio network of the USA and they were turned down for being women. Many of the women complained that those doing the hiring, men, would tell them they would not get jobs because they were women.

For once the government is slapped in the face for something it advocates against. Irony?

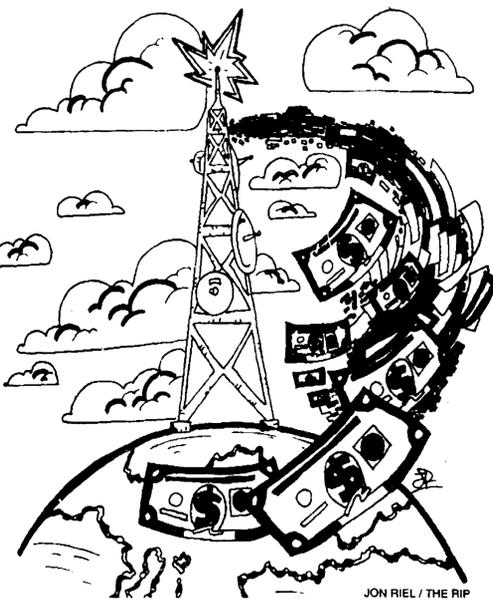
Dona DeSanctis, a former broadcaster for the Vatican Radio in Rome, was turned down for a USA job in favor of a man with "no journalism experience," according to the Los Angeles Times. She said that "the Justice Department has lived up to its name and done the right thing."

The lawsuit that took more than 20 years to settle was so large because of the long span of time and "the gross misconduct by the USA and the VOA," said one of the plaintiff's attorneys, quoted in the Times.

One applicant said that a supervisor for the Voice of America told her, "A woman's place was at the stove, not on the air."

We have all come a long way since 1964, when the Civil Rights Act was passed, women were contributors to the work force and the welfare of this nation. Finally, after two decades, this government agency gets the message.

This should send a loud and clear message to the youth of this nation who are female — you do matter. It also sends a wake-up call to businesses and government agencies that are dealing with such sex discrimination claims. Waiting to settle can become quite expensive.



JON RIEL / THE RIP

Rudeness in society reaches new levels

BY NICHOLE PERRY
Rip staff writer

This morning I was scanning the parking situation on my way down Church Street and what should I get but the front end of some Nissan blazer, bright red fire, right on my bumper, a good morning welcome of the most affectionate type. Being thoroughly pissed off, I shot down the street and screeched around the corner, safe as my temper would allow.

What is it with people? I hate to sound like an old lady, but did anyone ever teach my generation manners? Be it holding open a door for a student with full hands or simply giving a polite smile, people today have no concern for others.

Take a look around campus, general rudeness is not an isolated incident. The trash continues to litter our campus. Not only do students make a mess of the grounds, but the cafeteria looks like a trough. I always feel a pang for the workers who have to go around and clean up piles of half-eaten food and various other debris.



JON RIEL / THE RIP

Union says district administration budget should be cut

The French Revolution. Ever heard of it? It happened right around the same time as the American Revolution, but in some ways took a much nastier turn. Ever wonder where the phrase "heads will roll" came from? I suppose, though, they said it in French.

It seems that the royalty of France was so caught up in being in charge that they completely lost touch with the working, breathing, living, dying common folk of the country. Marie Antoinette's response to the comment that the people have no bread became a rallying cry. She said, "Let them eat cake."

Last fall many classes were canceled despite student demand because there weren't enough instructors available to teach the classes. As instructors retire or accept attractive offers from local high schools offering significantly higher salaries, the district cannot replace these positions because "there is no money."

Instructors at Bakersfield, Cerro Coso and Porterville Colleges earn \$5,000-\$15,000 less per year than their counterparts in Fresno and Visalia.

Reader states benefits of parking permit

This is my fourth semester here at BC and I always manage to get a ticket for parking each semester. My biggest offense is that I forget to display my parking pass appropriately. This happens to me because I change vehicles or just forget to hang the pass on my mirror.

Sam Haddock
BC Student

THE RENEGADE RIP

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'GADE FEEDBACK

Who do you think will win the Final Four? Why?

David Donaldson, Undecided: "Florida. They're an uptempo team. They run and press."	Jim Hussey, Physical Education: "Florida. They beat Duke."	Leah Kosaroff, Physical Education: "North Carolina. I've watched all the other teams play and I've heard they're really good."	Nicholas Peters, Undecided: "North Carolina. They've got a lot of talent. They've got some superstars."	Luis Hernandez, Undecided: "Michigan. They've had a good record so far and nobody's hurt."

A farewell KISS

BY ERIN M. LOPEZ
Features Editor

Yes, Skid Row and Ted Nugent were thoroughly entertaining with their brand of no-holds-barred hard rock, but as hard as they rocked the real reason more than 5,000 people showed up to Centennial Garden Arena was to see KISS.

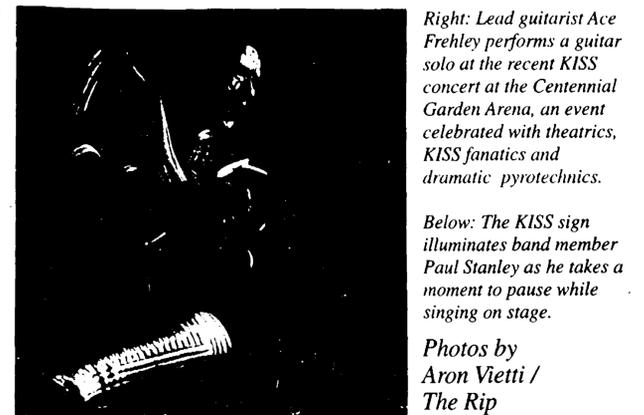
Supposedly on their final tour, KISS descended into Bakersfield with as much oomph as 50-year-old rockers can muster. Indoor fireworks, pyrotechnics, computer graphics and Gene Simmons' trademarked extra large tongue certainly made an impression on KISS fans, known as the KISS army.

Though none of this seemed to matter to the KISS army. From the moment KISS descended from a levitating platform with their glittering guitars and glam rock outfits to the face paint that seemed to pronounce each wrinkle, the crowd was entranced. Whether that was because of their disbelief of seeing KISS in concert live and in Bakersfield or the amount of reefer waiting in the air, God only knows.

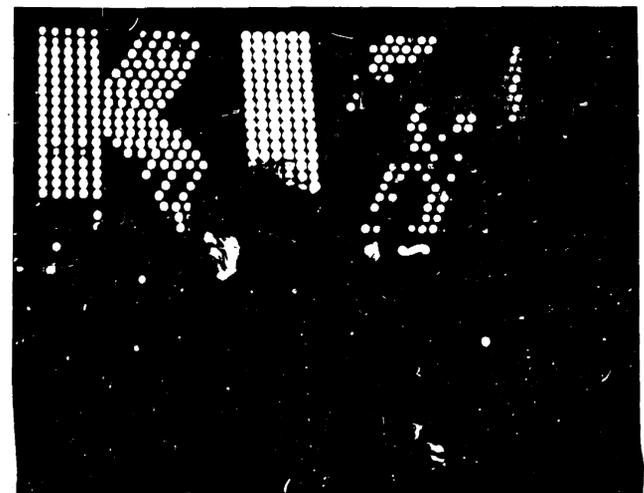
Either way they sat enthralled as interspersing live shots and computer graphics of KISS blazed across three screens, multi-colored lights electrified the arena, a giant KISS sign illuminated the stage and arena and fireworks exploded to the crowd's oohs-and-aahs. The fog machine was definitely over-worked though. It was almost as if they were trying to get that soft focus look so as to smooth out any wrinkles that could be found on the KISS "boys."

REVIEW

thanked the KISS army three times for its undying devotion. This, of course, only succeeded in making even the most soft-hearted people gag at the group's sincerity. Once is great, twice is fab, three's a crowd.



Right: Lead guitarist Ace Frehley performs a guitar solo at the recent KISS concert at the Centennial Garden Arena, an event celebrated with theatrics, KISS fanatics and dramatic pyrotechnics.



Below: The KISS sign illuminates band member Paul Stanley as he takes a moment to pause while singing on stage.

Photos by Aron Vietti / The Rip

Aging rockers still deliver music despite overblown concert production.

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Thanks to The Californian, Robin Johnson, Campus Police, Heli Ambulance Service, Hensley's Photos, Rod Thornburg, John Harris, Tom Morgan, Kaitie Griffith, Aaron Masuda, Rod Thornburg, Kristina Rabe and The Rip staff for making J-Dry such a success!

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Students earn awards for excellence

BY RICHARD D. WHIPPLE
Rip staff writer

Eleven Kern County high schools and 145 high school students participated in this year's Bakersfield College's High School Journalism Day, which is co-sponsored by the BC Journalism program and *The Bakersfield Californian*. Photographers and reporters also mailed in photos and stories ahead of time for mail-in categories.

On-the-spot winners:
News Story
First: Robert Harkins, East; second: Samantha Saalfeld, BHS; third: Kristina Griffen, BHS; honorable mentions: Jill Humphrey, BHS; Sarah Lawrence, Tehachapi; Cory Walker, Tehachapi; Lindsey Walker, Foothill.

News Photo
First: Seana Mickols, Centennial; second: Devin Phillips, South; third: Sabrina Rodriguez, Centennial; honorable mentions: Misty Shockley, West; Joe Botannon, Centennial; Josh Taylor, West; Brett Smith, Ridgeview; Dana Garcia, East.

Feature Writing
First: Michael Weir, BHS; second: Jennifer Mills, Centennial; Jill Humphrey, BHS; honorable mentions: Tiffany Maas, BHS; Erin Battan, Centennial; Erin Tennant, BHS; Samantha Saalfeld, BHS; Tiffany Weller, Centennial; Robert Harkins, East.

Critical Review Writing
First: Amber Garcia, Foothill; second: Cory Walker, Tehachapi; third: Jordan Karnes, BHS; honorable mentions: Elizabeth Hill, BHS; Kristina Griffen, BHS; Jessica Petrini, BHS; Philip Duncan, BHS; Yana Lantsberg, BHS.

Editorial Writing
First: Elizabeth Hill, BHS; second: Lauren Schenkman, BHS; third: Ashley Hill, Liberty; honorable mentions: Ace Garcera, BHS; Jessica Millman, BHS; Erin Tennant, BHS; Rachel Cribbs, BHS; Paige Hill, BHS; Jennifer Hatfield, West.

Mail-in categories:
News Story
First: Lauren Schenkman, BHS; second: Christina Cortez, Foothill; third: Samantha Saalfeld, BHS; honorable mentions: Kevin Roberts, West; Robert Harkins, East; Sarah Lawrence, Tehachapi; Heather Tackett, East; Kyle Gallimore, Highland; Jenny Vick, East.

Feature Story
First: Danielle McManus, Centennial; Second: Deepa Manohara, BHS; Third: Stephanie Kline, East; honorable mentions: Felicia Ponce, East; Jenny Vick, East; Cory Walker, Tehachapi.

Critical Review
First: Amber Garcia, Foothill; second: Dawn McManus, Centennial; third: Nate Boss, East; honorable mentions: Melissa Zavala, Tehachapi; Michelle Oveson, BHS; Jessica Hilley, Centennial; Ben Mahill, BHS.

Editorial
First: Dawn McManus, Centennial; second: Christa Edwards, East; third: Ryan Quintana, Centennial; honorable mentions: Jimmy Smith, Centennial; Xochitl Garcia, Arvin; Sarah Lawrence, Tehachapi; Mike Martinez, East; Elizabeth Pluta, East; Yana Lantsberg, BHS.

Sports Story
First: Alex Duenas, East; second: Heather Mitchell, BHS; Javier Herrera, East; honorable mentions: Michael Bones, West; David DiRado, Tehachapi; Cathy Hollingsworth, Tehachapi; Cory Walker, Tehachapi; Michelle Oveson, BHS; Nadine Elsbai, BHS.

Feature Photo
First: Simon Gill, BHS; second: Ben Mahill, BHS; third: Dana Garcia, East; honorable mentions: Cory Walker, Tehachapi; Candice Croy, Centennial; Alex Duenas, East.

Sports Photo
First: Dana Garcia, East; second: David DiRado, Tehachapi; third: Simon Gill, BHS; honorable

See Winners, Page 6

Below: High school photographers attempt to capture the moment during staged news presentation near Levinson Hall.



ARON VIETTI / THE RIP

Staging Reality

Mock accident serves as warning to speeding students on campus.

BY ROBERT HARKINS
East High School

Bakersfield College student John Johnson, 19, was fatally injured at approximately 9 a.m. Thursday when he was hit by a 1978 Chevrolet truck traveling 45 mph through the Levinson Hall parking lot intersection on the BC campus.

The driver of the truck, 20-year-old BC student Sally Smithe, was arrested by a Bakersfield Police Department officer at the crime scene.

According to a press release from Officer Joe Johnson, Smithe ran the intersection stop sign, going 30 miles over the legal speed limit. John Johnson, a business major, was walking to class when he was hit.

Former sheriff's deputy recalls brush with death

BY MICHAEL WEIR
Bakersfield High School

"Please excuse me if you have trouble hearing me. I have some difficulty projecting my voice."

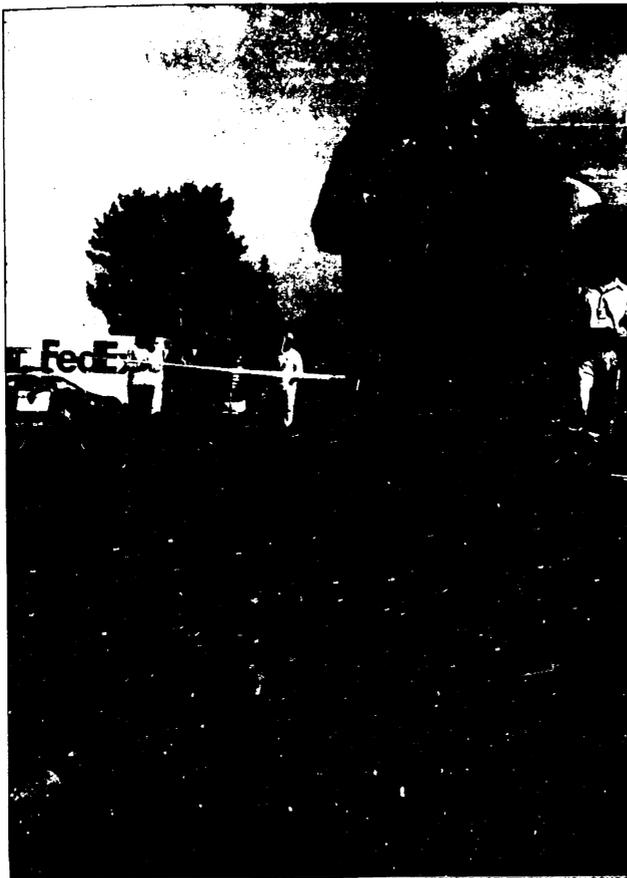
Those are the words of former sheriff's deputy Tom Morgan, who suffered a devastating shotgun blast to the left side of his neck on April 15, 1997.

His assailant, 17-year-old Jason Samuel, was convicted of attempted murder and sentenced to 26 years to life in prison. Samuel came from a broken home; he lived with his mother and rarely saw his father.

On that fateful day, Morgan was on a routine patrol in his squad car with a trainee. They noticed an immobile vehicle, with two juvenile boys inside. Considering their ages, time of day, and the neighborhood, it was a suspicious predicament.

Morgan and his partner approached the vehicle, and noticed the suspects reaching to the glove compartment.

Morgan's partner secured the suspect, while



SEANA MICKOLS / CENTENNIAL HIGH SCHOOL

Seana Mickols took first place in the on-the-spot photo competition with this scene from the mock accident during J-Day.

Johnson feels that the accident could have been prevented if the driver of the truck had been driving more responsibly.

"This senseless accident should be a warning to all students about the danger of speeding on campus," said Johnson during the press conference.

He was pronounced dead at approximately 9:30 a.m. Smithe was taken to the Kern County Jail, where she

Former sheriff's deputy recalls brush with death

Morgan went off in pursuit of the other. Morgan rounded a corner and found the suspect trying to force his way into a house. Morgan immediately started to wrestle with the suspect.

The suspect drew a weapon. Morgan fell, stunned. Recovering from temporary paralysis, he grabbed a 2x4 and struck the suspect with it.

The suspect stumbled backwards, struck Morgan in the head, and ran off. Morgan was later found and taken to KMC, then UCLA Medical Center.

"I couldn't really muster any contempt or hate for him," said Morgan. "He was a criminal, doing his job. I was a policeman, doing mine."

Morgan was in the best physical shape he could have been in at the time. "I probably would not have returned to work. The incident had frightened my family too horribly," Morgan said.

"No matter how well prepared you are, someone will always try to kill you because you wear a badge," said Morgan.



MICHAEL D. ROSS / THE RIP

Tom Morgan displays bloody uniform during his speech.

'Family Guy' offers twisted humor

BY AMBER GARCIA
Foothill High School

For years, the Fox network has given us programs that are funny, smart satires of the America we live in.

The network's highest rated show, "The Simpsons," has successfully done this, and their newest animated cartoon show "The Family Guy" is sure to follow in "The Simpsons'" footsteps.

Just when you think the TV sitcom is dead, along comes "The Family Guy."

The series is about the Griffin family, a loving but unconsciously dysfunctional family living in Quahog, Rhode Island.

At the head of the household is Peter Griffin, a product safety inspector at the Happy-Go-Lucky Toy Company, who unconsciously degrades his family and his best friends with the family's intelligent

speaking dog, Brian. Peter is married to Lois, a housewife who loves her husband deeply and is unaware of the attempts her 1-year-old baby Stewie makes in defeating the "gynocracy" she is in charge of.

The other two Griffin kids are Chris, a dimwitted teenager, and Meg, a girl obsessed with being part of the "in" crowd.

"The Family Guy" does what "The Simpsons" does—make fun of every day America.

The Griffin family are often crude, extreme and find themselves in impossible situations; but the innocence in the behavior is what makes you smile.

The show is a hilarious rendition of what American families are like, and though the show is a tad unrealistic, it doesn't purposely spit on the American dream.

It's just saying, "Look, there is no American dream. This is what families are like." Watching the show makes you laugh out loud, but mostly, it makes you appreciate of your own family since you are grateful yours is not like the Griffin one.

That, ladies and gentlemen, should be the American Dream.

Making Tracks

'Gades field top athletes at BC invitational.

BY LEANNE CAVE
Sports Editor

Amanda Harvey threw away the competition as she won three of four field events and was named the Athlete of the Meet during the recent Bakersfield College Invitational Track and Field Meet.

Harvey, a BC sophomore, a little nervous about the competition, stepped up and made the shots when they counted. "I felt the competition and I had little flutters, but the workouts have been going good and I just wanted to meet the challenge," she said. "Every meet is a challenge."

The defending state champion, who has already qualified for the Southern California Regionals in all three events, set a new school record in the hammer with a 159' 4" winning throw. This throw was 22 feet better than the old record. She won the shot put with a 44-09 toss and captured first place in the discus with a 140-01 toss.

Heather Hunt completed the sweep in the field events for the women as she took first place in the javelin throw with a 113-09 mark. "It was so exciting," said Hunt. "It was very close and I won by an inch."

Marnie Perry also made her marks as she placed third in the discus at 132-02, fourth in the hammer with a 133-05 throw and fourth in the discus at 38-09.

In the track events for the women, Erin Stewart placed fourth in the 400-meter hurdles and fifth in the high jump at 4-10. Anna Rios placed third in the 1,500-meter run and the sprint relay team of Tosha Reed, Jeannie Banner, Casey Holman and Adrienne Colbert finished third with a time of 50.81.

The BC men also made some noise in the field events for the Renegades as Anthony Martinez and Mike Prusridge, the No. 1 2 punch in the state, placed in their respective events.

Martinez, who said he enjoys the pressure, stepped up and won the hammer throw a 174-01 toss, a personal best for the sophomore.

"I was surprised that I did so well considering that I was sick," said Martinez. "It was the first time this season that we had this kind of competition."

Prestridge, who leads the

state with a 177-11 mark in the hammer, took third place. In the shot put event, he took second with a 48-06 toss.

In the men's track events, the 400-meter relay team of Eddie Miller, Nick Ray, Chalome Lucas and Michael Hall took third place for BC as they finished with a 4:18.5 time. Hall tied for fourth in the 100-meter dash with a 10.85 time.

The 'Gades 1,600-relay team of Terry Woodard, Hall, Ray and Nathan Huggins had a season best performance taking fourth place with a 3:14.52 time. Huggins took fourth in the 200-meter dash with a 21.99 time.

Ray, of the 1,600 relay team, ran the 400-meter hurdles in a time of 55.46 to place third for BC.

In the grueling 3,000-meter steeplechase, Eduardo Rocha placed fifth with a time of 10:05.33 and Omar Garcia placed sixth at 10:07.44.

In the distance events, Rudy Cavazos won the 1,500-run in 4:08.24. Jose Perezchica took second and Matt Neufeld took third. The duo of Perezchica and Neufeld put the second and fourth fastest times in the BC record books, Perezchica at 15:07.3 and Neufeld 15:17.4.

Ben Fogel of San Mateo, who threw for a state's best mark of

211-02 in the javelin throw, was named the Field Athlete of the Meet.

Kristina Groves of Long Beach was named Track Athlete of the Meet. She won both the 100-meter (12:13) and the 200-meter (24.63).

A highlight of the meet was the pole vault event when competitor Susanna Kassab from Citrus cleared the bar at 11

"I felt the competition and I had little flutters, but the workouts have been going good and I just wanted to meet the challenge."

— Amanda Harvey, defending state champ

feet and was vying for the national record. However, she injured her knee on the third try and was carried from the event.

"We were very pleased with our meet results," said BC coach Bob Covey.

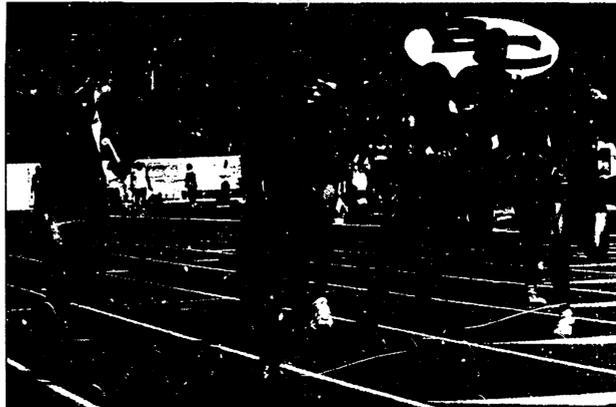
"It was the first big home meet for our youngsters and there's more pressure in front of the home crowds."

The BC track and field team is currently in first place and unbeaten in the Western State Conference. Memorial Stadium will be the site of the WSC Championships planned for April 19 and the California Community College Track and Field Championships May 19-20.

Jennifer Bell looks to be in top form as she clears the 100-meter hurdles.



Nick Ray approaches Chalome Lucas to hand off baton in relay race. Right, Omar Garcia fights through water in the 3,000-meter steeplechase.



Photos by Aron Vietti / The Rip

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JAKE TELAMO

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California State University-Bakersfield

Closed campuses create rebellion

Confining students during lunch will infuriate already on edge juniors and seniors.

BY ELIZABETH HILL
Bakersfield High School

Confining hundreds of students to one quad with only a few disgusting meal choices will create more problems than allowing high school juniors and seniors to have a bit of freedom. After 11 years of imprisonment, students will not respond positively to a change of policy.

Many wonder how students attending Liberty and North high school cope with closed campuses for eleventh and twelfth graders. These are the only two high schools with a restriction of this sort in the Kern High School District.

Closing campuses throughout the city will not reduce car accidents or tardies, it will merely infuriate pupils already on edge. Tardy-loving students with pasts of driving recklessly will not turn

over a new leaf because the district officers have decided on a whim to make them just like their fellow pupils at North and Liberty (an ironic name).

Beverage and "entree" selections at most high schools are less than mediocre. High schoolers, most of them more health conscious than the adults involved in voting on the closed-campus decision, leave not only to take a break away from school, but also to flee from nachos, Frito boats, and burritos. Teen-agers affected by this policy will have heart problems in their 40s. Bringing a sack lunch to school seems like a solution, but most juniors do not have 10 minutes to spare and neither do their parents, to make a sack lunch.

High school cafeterias and student stores are far from being oases. If tardies and car accidents are a problem, why not tackle those problems rather than creating a new one? Teen-agers are known for their crave for freedom. Minors are freedom-starved and should not have their lunch liberty taken away from them. Content students will behave and learn better than confined students close to rebellion.

Next Edition — Telephone/Web Registration Instructions

LEADER NEWSLINE WHAT'S HAPPENING WHERE & WITH WHOM

Women's basketball coach honored

The women's basketball coach Paula Dahl was chosen by coaches in the Western Athletic Conference as this season's coach of the year. Dahl's team made runner-up and had an overall season record of 24-11 with 23 regular season wins tying with the most wins in BC women's basketball history. Three players made the all-conference team and one made honorable mention. This year's team raised \$40,000 to travel to their tournaments, making up for lack of funding, along with keeping up their academics.

New scholarship available to students

The new Kern URISA Geographic Information Systems Scholarship is available for BC students. Students who are pursuing a career in geographic information systems and have a cumulative 2.75 GPA or higher are encouraged to apply for the scholarship. Applications are available in the BC Financial Aid office. The deadline is April 17, 2000.

Blood drive to be held on BC campus

Houchin Blood Bank will be on campus Thursday from 9:30 a.m. till noon and 1 p.m. till 3 p.m. in the Fireside room. Student, faculty and staff member donations are needed. When preparing for donation, please note the following: Eat a meal within five hours prior to donating. Well balanced meals containing protein and carbohydrates are essential. Diets must be taking in at least 1200 calories per day. The more fluids donors take in before and after donating, the better they will feel. Avoid caffeine, it is dehydrating. Those donating should be free from all cold, flu, cold sores, or symptoms of any infection for three days, and off all antibiotics for three days. Blood donors should not be in any of the AIDS high risk groups. All donors must be at least 17 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds and provide identification with your picture on it.



MARK RILEY / THE RIP

TOP TEN THINGS OVERHEARD AT MY ACADEMY AWARDS PARTY

1. "Wow — meatballs in the shape of Dave's diseased heart."
2. "Kitty, hold still so I can put on your little tuxedo."
3. "Shh! The sound effects editing category is next!"
4. "I see a dead party."
5. "Thank goodness for the E! Channel. Now I know what socks Karl Malden is wearing."
6. "Dave must love 'American Beauty' — he's wearing only rose petals."
7. "Dave, if you'd just buy a TV we wouldn't have to stand in Sears."
8. "Call me snooty, but I don't consider sugar-free Certs 'hors d'oeuvres.'"
9. "Look, the missing Academy Award statuette! Oh, my mistake — hi, Paul."
10. "What else is on?"

Reprinted with permission from "The Late Show" with David Letterman

Rubes By Leigh Ruben



Allen softens his stance after a professionally disastrous Y2K.



BY RICHARD D. WHIPPLE
Rip staff writer

CD theft leaves BC student with quiet ride

A female student reported to campus police on March 21 that a black compact disc case and 30 CDs were stolen from her vehicle. The student parked her car in the southeast parking lot of the BC campus at 8 a.m. to go to class. When she returned three hours later, she noticed the CDs and the case missing. Total loss is estimated at \$600.

Campus police foil attempted break-in

On March 16 at 2:40 a.m., a BC campus police officer noticed a person entering the Applied Science and Technology building through an open window. After notifying the Bakersfield Police Department, a search was conducted throughout the building, the

basement and the tunnel leading to the Speech, Arts and Music building.

The search found no suspects although a door was found opened. There was no loss reported.

The suspect is described as a Hispanic male, 18-25 years old, 5'8" to 5'10," 160-170 pounds with short, black hair.

Parking permit stolen from student's vehicle

On Feb. 23, a BC student reported to campus police that someone stole his student parking permit. He parked in the northeast parking lot and went to class. When he returned to his parked car, at 11:30 a.m., he discovered his parking permit had been stolen.

Student's bike taken from field house

A male student reported to campus police that on Feb. 28, his blue mountain bike was stolen from inside the BC field house. The student left the bicycle by the showers. He returned at 8:30 p.m., and discovered the bike was missing. The field house was unlocked at the time of the theft. Total loss is estimated at \$150.

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ASBC plans variety of Spring Fling events

BY KARI SWEET
RIP staff writer

Students will have a chance to show off their cow milking abilities during Spring Fling week which begins Monday. Events will be held in the Free Speech Area.

"We have a lot of good contests," said Tadeu Pauletto Szpoganicz, Associated Students of Bakersfield College vice president of activities. "We're going to have a lot of fun."

The events on Monday will begin at 10 a.m. and will include "singing a swing" contest, in which participants will sing a song from the '60s or perform a current swing. The ASBC will serve a Brazilian inspired lunch, which will be followed by a samba presentation. Following the samba presentation, lessons will be given on how to do the samba.

At 1:20 p.m. a Japanese noodle eating competition will begin. Next students can participate in an obstacle course at 1:30 p.m. A drama competition will begin at 2 p.m. Groups will perform a scene related to a specific theme.

On Tuesday, the events will include bingo beginning at 10 a.m., with prizes and music. Students can participate in a sitting on balloons competition at 11:45 a.m., which will be similar to musical chairs, complete with music by a DJ. Following the sitting on balloons contest a hot potato with a needle mango contest will happen at 12:20 p.m. and an obstacle course will be held at 1:15 p.m.

"Tuesday and Thursday are going to be really good days because of the contests and the DJs that we invited," said Tadeu.

Wednesday's events will include the cow/goat milking contest starting at 8:15 a.m. The loser of the contest gets a shower in fresh milk. KUZZ trivia questions about Bakersfield will begin at 10 a.m., and may be broadcast live. At 11 a.m. a band and a line-dancing presentation will be held, followed by a line-dancing contest. Trustee and mayor-elect Harvey Hall has been invited to speak at 11:50 a.m. about his experiences in Bakersfield.

At 1 p.m. a pig leg catching competition will be held. Participants will try to catch as many cooked pig legs as they can out of a box of water. The fishing contest will be next. Students who participate can win prizes, including cash by fishing plastic Easter eggs out of a pool. Beginning at 2 p.m., speakers have been invited to make presentations about ASBC involvement. This will include an introduction of the candidates running for positions in the ASBC.

"We want to involve students and staff," said Tadeu. "We also hope that people from the community will attend."

The events on Thursday will begin at 10 a.m. and will include limbo and tug-a-war between clubs. At 12:15 p.m. the shoe mix contest will begin. Participants will throw their shoes in a pile and the first to find, put on and tie their own shoes will win. Then the bed-making contest will begin at 1 p.m. The last event of Spring Fling week will be a water balloon launching contest.

WINNERS: High school journalists compete at BC

Continued from Page 1
mentions: Holly Harrison, BHS; Renee Espinoza, BHS; Stephanie Hernandez, Foothill; Cory Walker, Tehachapi.

Front Page Layout
First: The Warrior, Tehachapi; second: Blue and White, BHS; The Hawk Eye, Centennial; The Epic, Foothill; The Kernal, East; The Saga, West.

General Excellence
First: The Warrior, Tehachapi; second: Blue and White, BHS; third: The Bear Facts, Arvin; honorable mentions: The Hawk Eye, Centennial; The Epic, Foothill; The Kernal, East; The Saga, West.

Do you have a story idea for The Rip?

Contact editor Mike Ross at 395-4324 or stop by The Rip office in Campus Center 1.

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Spring 2000 BC Graduation
Filing Deadline is Monday, April 3

Students planning on completing their degrees in Spring 2000 should file for graduation now. Applications are available at window #6 in the Admissions & Records Office.

Spring Grace Van Dyke Bird Library Hours

Monday - Thursday
8 a.m. - 8:45 p.m.
Friday
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Saturday
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