



Softball Falls Short

Lady 'Gades finish second behind College of the Canyons in conference play.

Sports, Page 6



'Mummy' Unravels

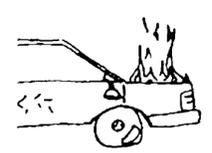
New Brendan Fraser sequel falls victim to tireless blockbuster formula.

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Flaming Caddy

Rip Staffer laments about recent car problems.

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THE RENEGADE RIP

Vol. 72 No. 9

Bakersfield College

May 11, 2001

Fate of BC campus security remains in limbo

BY BRYAN SWAIM
Editor in Chief

Bakersfield College Chief of Security Jess Soto is tired. For more than three years, he and the rest of the BC security officers have been waiting for a decision from the Board of Trustees on the fate of their authority.

New state codes covering their operations have changed and now call for campus police to be either police officers or security officers, but not both.

"Some of our younger guys have to secure themselves but have no idea about their future," Soto said. "At this point I wish they would just make a decision because we have been in limbo so many years."

At the Kern Community College Board of Trustees meeting last Thursday, the board split 2-2 on the decision to seek an agreement for the Bakersfield Police Department to provide their law enforcement services on campus. The option was one of many issues discussed at the meeting, which also included the

approval of card-lock systems and surveillance cameras in BC buildings.

The split vote is yet another delay in a final decision concerning the future of the campus police. Under the old law, campus police are considered peace officers. As such they are protected under the same laws as BPD. The new law would only allow them to be security officers, which means they cannot make arrests or patrol in police cars.

The plan recommended by the security department is to train the

current campus security department to be full-fledged police officers. This would take one to two years, according to Soto.

The plan recommended by BC President Sandra Serrano is for campus police remain a security department while contracting with BPD to conduct investigations and enforce laws.

This would take less time, but according to Soto, it would be more dangerous.

"If we stayed security, we would have no authority to use any law

enforcement whatsoever. I don't think it's very safe," Soto said. "If there's a crime committed on campus, we would have to contact a police officer."

Contracting with BPD could have some benefits though, including police and crime prevention classes being taught on campus.

"From our perspective, we are there as a resource to the district. We are positively in a neutral position," said Assistant BPD chief Eric Rector. "We're not talking any contractual relationship at this point. It is clearly

a decision up to the board."

Another issue concerning campus police is money. According to Soto, it would cost about \$16,000 to upgrade the current security force to police officers, which includes training and equipment. Soto said it would cost \$103,000 a year just to hire one BPD officer.

"My personal opinion is that it would be cheaper to keep the in-house and just upgrade the standards," Soto said. "Especially if they don't want to use education dollars for security."



Cinco de Mayo



Left, a lowrider is displayed at the celebration. Middle, Mariachis performs in the Campus Center. Bottom, BC Student Vanessa Renteria gives a speech while a Mexican flag is waved in the background.

Photos by Aron Vietti and David Arrieta, The Rip



Live music, speakers showcased at college's annual Cinco de Mayo celebration.

BY DAVID ARRIETA
Rip staff writer

Bakersfield College alumni Gloria Guerra Scott, who is now a bank vice president, summed up the importance of Cinco de Mayo last week during a speech on campus.

Scott talked about the similarities between the young Mexicans who fought with machetes against a large French Army on May 5, 1841, and the young Latino students who now fight and struggle to receive an education.

Scott also said it is important to celebrate the holiday on campus.

"The significance of Cinco de Mayo is important for everyone," Scott said. "We celebrate to share our colorful and happy culture with everyone."

Director of the Chicano Cultural Center, Cornelio Rodriguez, and staff members led the Cinco de Mayo celebration with Mariachi music, Mexican food and classic Mexican songs performed by BC student Abel Nunez.

"It is important to keep our traditions alive and share our culture by providing awareness for everyone," Rodriguez said. "Not just ourselves,"

BC student and M.E.Ch.A (Movimiento

"It is important to keep our traditions alive and share our culture by providing awareness for everyone, not just ourselves."

—Cornelio Rodriguez,
Director of Chicano Cultural Center

Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan) club member Hector Leonzo helped organize the celebration by inviting DJ Mando and Escuelas Unidas (United Schools.)

DJ Mando played Spanish music such as cumbias, salsa, rancheras and Spanish rock. The group Escuelas Unidas also performed folkloric dances.

Singing performances by BC students Laurel Higuera, Vanessa Renteria and Abel Nunez, combined with the sale of elotes, chicharines and agua de orchata drew large



lots of students to the courtyard to enjoy and participate in the Cinco de Mayo celebration that turned out to be a complete success.

BC student Veronica DeLeon enjoyed the Cinco de Mayo celebration.

"I thought it was great," DeLeon said.

"I learned a lot and I felt so proud of my friends who performed."

BC student Luz Menchaca echoed DeLeon's comments.

"It was very nice," she said. "I especially enjoyed the food ... the elotes were good."

Bath, Bracamonte victorious at ASBC election

BY RYAN KNAGGS
Rip staff writer

Bakersfield College students packed the polls last week to elect next year's ASBC officers.

Voting took place May 2 and 3 in the Campus Center outside the Fireside room with 587 total votes cast. Many of the races were very competitive, with a lot of campaigning involved.

Voter turnout for ASBC elections

was far greater this year than last.

"This year's election allowed the candidates to start campaigning as soon as they could," said Sarah Jones, the outgoing ASBC president. "More campaigning leads to higher voter turnout in most cases."

Without a doubt, one of the most publicized and competitive races on the ballot was for the office of president. The two candidates were Matt Shaw and Sumeet Bath. After tireless campaigning, the race was

finally decided, with Bath taking the victory by 14 percent of the vote.

Some of the candidates ran for ASBC offices uncontested. These candidates included Trustee Liaison elect Kevin Calvin, the new Vice President of Legislation, Brian Feaster, new ASBC Chief Justice Christopher Smith and new Associate Justice of ASBC, Melissa Erricalde.

Feaster, who is currently the Vice President of Activities said there was

a good reason no one ran against him for Vice President of Legislation. "I'm the right person for the job, and everybody knows it," Feaster said.

The closest race of the ASBC elections was the race for Vice President of Communications. Terri Bracamonte edged out Tina Carrol by a slim nine votes, a mere one percent of the votes cast for the office.

Omid Sharbati defeated Yvonne Palacios for the office of Vice

President of Finance.

In another close race, Paul Bench edged out opponent Jill Humphrey by 16 votes for the office of Vice President of Finance.

In addition to the offices of ASBC, there were two other big winners. Tom Greenwood, the popular mathematics professor, was given the title of Teacher of the Year. Also, Carla Reyes from the Student Activities Office won the award of Classified Employee of the Year.



BRYAN SWAIM / THE RIP

Bath stands next to a sign.

Program needs support

International students request full-time help.

BY LANELL HAFT
Campus Editor

At least 65 students at Bakersfield College pay more than \$1,600 per semester for tuition and add more than \$250,000 to the local economy.

But services for this group of foreign students have been cut to the bone. That's according to Shorreh Rahman, ESL and international student counselor. Rahman, a part-time employee, is the only counselor assigned to the international student program at BC. She is authorized to work 24 hours a week.

She works with more than 400 ESL students, fields local and state-wide phone calls about international student programs, answers immigration questions, deals with mountains of paper work and myriads of visitors who come to her with questions or problems.

"We have had support from the administration," Rahman said. "But it has been minimal."

Money is allocated for an assistant to help her 19 hours a week, but right now she doesn't have one.

Dean of Students Charles Guerrero agrees that the current hours aren't adequate to meet the needs of foreign students.

He has asked Rahman to make a proposal that details how much money is needed to pay for personnel, facilities and supplies.

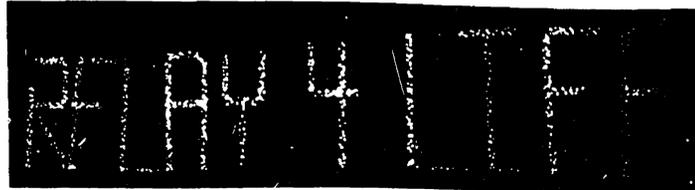
"Once I have that, I can make a proposal to the president (of BC) and the President's Council," Guerrero said. "A lot depends on budgetary considerations."

Guerrero said he supports an international student program. "(They) add a flavor to a campus that you can't get any other way," he said.

"They are excellent academically, enthusiastic, pleasant, goal-oriented, and a pleasure for faculty members to have in class," he said. "The students on our campus receive the benefits of exposure to diverse cultures. I don't really see any negative effects by having international students here. The negative effects would be if we can't supply the services they need."

BC students like Brazilian Tadeu Szpoganicz agree.

"We want to be here long enough to learn English and the subject for our majors," he said. "But we also want to teach you, this is what we do in our countries."



Fight against Cancer

There is no finish line until we find a cure.

Thousands of people gathered at California State University, Bakersfield April 28 for the annual Relay for Life. As teams began to prepare for the 24 hour event, a sea of cancer survivors gathered to walk the first lap of the relay, dubbed the "victory lap." The event began with a prayer from Mayor Harvey Hall. Local singer Lydia Ranger sang the nation anthem.



Above: White lights create a large sign on Stockdale Highway.

Center Right: Candlelight luminaries line the track in honor of those who have had cancer.

Right: Lydia Ranger sings the National Anthem at the beginning of the Relay for Life.

Photos and Story by Alyssa D. Stumbo / The Rip



Above: A child and her mother bow their heads as the mayor reads a prayer.

Far Left: Survivors and supporters walk the track at Cal State Bakersfield.

Left: Nicholas Barker looks to see what gifts he received from Comprehensive Blood and Cancer Center.

OPINION

Automatic selective service unfair for males

COLUMN
MICHAEL D. ROSS
Online Editor

Throughout the semester credit card vendors are found infesting the campus center like a plague. These vendors encourage students to sign up for credit cards to get T-shirts, candy and other free stuff. That single credit card application begins a history of junk mail for the student.

Most forms and applications have the hidden side effects. But whoever thought politicians would create a similar system for driver's licenses?

A new bill, AB 1572, is making its way through the California Assembly. The bill would automatically register males between the ages of 18 and 26 for Selective Service when they apply for a state driver's license or identification card.

A recent press release from Assemblyman Mike Briggs (R-Clovis), who also introduced the bill, said that men in this age range are not eligible for student aid and loans unless they register with Selective Service.

Advocates claim AB 1572 would resolve this problem by automatically registering every male for the draft, or at least every male with a state ID card. But this is just one more instance of government trying to take away freedom from the hands of United States citizens.

We live in a country that is supposed to be free. Shouldn't that include the option to choose whether or not an individual wants to fight wars? If our country became engaged in a war that threatened our survival, I would gladly drop everything to defend it. But that is my choice. Others don't feel the same way I do.

Some religions discourage fighting. Are we to require people to abandon their religious beliefs to defend our land of the free? If so, then we give up the right to be called free. AB 1572 discourages young men from getting their licenses, which could result in a society dominated by female drivers and we all know how dangerous that can be.

Briggs' efforts, while well intended, are headed in the wrong direction. If so many students are not eligible for student aid and loans because they're not registering with Selective Service, why not change the guidelines and make Selective Service registration an option rather than a requirement?

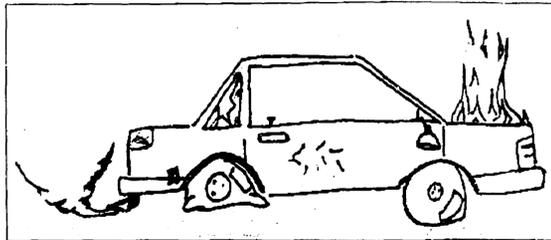


TYLER MOLHOCK / THE RIP

CAR Trouble

Student suffers vehicle and financial woes.

BY RONNIE WILSON
Rip staff photographer



TYLER MOLHOCK / THE RIP

Cars drive me crazy. Just the other day I was driving my '86 Nissan when it broke down in the middle of the street. I had to push it two blocks to my friend's house.

Later I found out that my timing belt went out. It costs about \$1800 to fix. Since I'm a pizza delivery driver and must provide my own car, my job was in danger.

As a full time college student, I don't have a lot of money to pay for repairs, or a new car. I have found out that being without a car is hard.

I have had a car since I was 16 and driving is the only mode of transportation I've known. When my '86 Nissan broke down, I had to fix my old car, which is 1970 Cadillac. It only gets 12 miles to the gallon tops and I can't use the cheap gas, so

it's at least two bucks a gallon. If that's not bad enough the car has a transmission leak. Since I haven't driven it in so long, when I did drive it, it started to smoke. I park and look under the hood and the car was, in fact, on fire.

It was a small fire, so we put it out and ever since then I have had no car. People say that I should take the GET bus, but the busses don't run anywhere near my house. If I went to the station it would probably be at least a mile and a half.

So now I'm stuck. I have to depend on people for rides until I get a new car. But wait, I can't get a new car because I'm so young and don't have a

good job and have not been working there long enough so now I'm really screwed. I have no car, can't take the bus, can't get a new car and have no financing. What am I supposed to do?

I just feel helpless. I don't want to ask my parents for money because they are struggling too. So there is not much I can do.

In a matter of a week, I went from having control of my life, to having no control.

I'm not doing the best in school, but it's hard when all I can think about is how am I going to get home? How am I going to get a car? How am I going to get money? I guess this is growing up.

Officers bid farewell to student government

ASBC
Sumeet Bath
Vice President of Communications

This year's ASBC has strived to make a difference for Bakersfield College. Whether it was prepping for homecoming or battling the infamous Spring Fling T-shirt scandal, the ASBC has always had the students' best intentions at heart.

This year alone the ASBC Senate has passed 45 bills. These bills included establishing an official

College Hour, setting up the new Club Room and allocating funds for ASBC sponsored events. Although the ASBC does suffer from inadequate funds, the members were still able to attend an inexpensive leadership conference at California State University-Fresno.

"With the reduction in funds, this year's ASBC and E-board has stepped up its leadership and compensated by drawing on the commitment and teamwork of its officers and student membership," Vice President of Finance Rick Harold said.

Besides the lack of sufficient funds this year, the ASBC experienced changes within the Student Government infrastructure.

At the beginning of this school year, the Executive Board had two officers resign as well as one board member removed.

ASBC President Sarah Jones said, "I think this has been a reconstruction year for Bakersfield College, the students and the district, which is now called the Co-Op."

Not only has the change in the Executive Board played the ASBC but so has the lack of a permanent Student Activities Director. To fill the gap, Yvonne Ortiz-Bush, Vice President of Finance, Irene Spencer, Carla Reyes and Manuel Gonzalez, Vice President of Activities, Terrie have all helped with the duties of the ASBC. Barbara Shumaker stepped in this semester as our Interim Student Activities Director.

Currently, Bakersfield College is looking for a permanent Student Activities Director for the next school year.

Although the ASBC has gone through some changes, student participation was not an all time low. Participation during homecoming and Spring Fling did increase from previous years.

The Executive Board will consist of: Sumeet Bath, President; Brian Feaster, Vice President of Legislation; Omid Sharbati, Vice President of Finance; Paul Bench, Vice President of Activities; Terrie Bracamonte, Vice President of Communications; Christopher Smith, Chief Justice; Kevin Calvin, Trustee Liaison.

Security restricts gaming at BC

Attention Students: there is no gambling of any kind on campus. This includes dominos, dice, cards of any kind and Tarot cards. All gaming material will be confiscated.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

If you have any questions call security at 395-4554. This is what we now see as we walk into the cafeteria. I applaud them for taking measures to rid gambling. I mean hey it is illegal anyways right? But that is the only thing I applaud them for, is the idea, not the direction being taken to stop gambling.

By the way, since security is the only number to ask questions about, I am going to refer security as the agent of action upholding the abolishment of any gaming on campus.

Ok, now to the point, first of all, not all card games played on campus is gambling. I mean, I really do not see any money being exchanged during crazy eights, or even go fish, but guess what, I can get cited and possibly arrested for playing either one of these. Also, you do not bet on Tarot readings, nor is this a game, this is something people do because other people ask, or it is their interest, but we are not allowed.

Back to the card games. I remember playing hearts with the Inter Varsity Christian club. Are you going to accuse them of gambling? Now we are not allowed to play anything in which there is winning involved, so then if I play paper, rock, scissors does

this mean I will be cited? Throughout my years of attending this campus I have never participated, or have noticed any money being passed in any game being played.

I like dominos, and so do a lot of people I know. Now, that is being taken away. What are we supposed to do, there is nothing to keep us entertained during our moments of boredom. Some may say it is not the responsibility for BC to keep their students entertained. Ok I can agree, but now it seems as if it is the responsibility of BC, or the security to take it a step further and make sure we are bored.

Don't get me wrong, the security we have here is wonderful, but unfortunately their actions are not. Since we can't do anything where winning is involved, then why have sports? Is debating going to be taken away? If I were to bring a football on campus and play with my friends, does that mean I will get a ticket? Or am I going to get cited for playing Tic-Tac-Toe. Wait a minute, a friend of mine was told he was going to be.

These are questions I should not have to bring up, but because we are being treated like children, as opposed to college students, then if someone else who agrees will give full support against this action.

— Terry L. Cranfill
BC Student

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End of Semester Cafeteria Schedule

Thursday, May 17	OPEN-All Sites
Friday, May 18	OPEN-All Sites
Monday, May 22	OPEN-All Sites/Food Carts closed
Tuesday, May 22	OPEN-Staff Dining Room OPEN until 6 p.m.-Panorama Grill CLOSED-Food Court A.M. & P.M./Carts
Wednesday, May 23	OPEN until 3 p.m.-Panorama Grill CLOSED-Food Court A.M. & P.M., Carts & Staff Dining Room
Thursday, May 24	CLOSED-All Sites Honor Brunch/Commencements
Friday, May 25	CLOSED-All sites OPEN 7 a.m.-9 a.m.-Honor Coffee Bar in Staff Dining Room

Honor Coffee Bar (7 a.m.-9 a.m.) and Food Line (9 a.m.-2 p.m.) in the Staff Dining Room will be open May 29-31 and June 4-7.

The Panorama Grill opens for the summer session June 12.

THE RENEGADE RIP
Winner of the 1999 CNPA Better Newspapers Contest

Bryan Swalm
Editor in Chief

Rachel Cribbes
Opinion Editor

Jarrod M. Graham
Features Editor

Leanne Cave
Sports Editor

LaNeil Hart
Campus Editor

Aron Vietti
Photo Editor

Michael D. Ross
Online Editor

Reporters: Estella Aguilar, David Arieta, Vanessa Boutwell, Larry Bragg, Henry Franco, Elizabeth Gregory, Ryan Knaggs, Shannon Powell, Richard D. Whipple, Liz-White

Photographers: Jose Pimentel, Alyssa D. Stumbo, Todd E. Swenson, Ronnie Wilson, Teresa Valdez

Graphic Artist: Tyler Molhoek

Katie Price
Adviser

Robin Johnson
Business Manager

Rod Thornburg
Photo Technician

Casey Christie
Photo Adviser

'GADE FEEDBACK

What is your favorite memory from the past year? Why?

Veronica Terrazas, Child Development: "Getting to know more people."

L'Jon Lesley, Undecided: "When I was passing my math class."

Tias Martinez, Biology: "Being on the track team."

Nathan Wallace, Political Science: "My lectures in Mrs. Pandolf's class. She's my Political Science teacher and she's really good."

David West, Undecided: "It's the moments that I share with other people. It's what is really important in my life, it's like where I feel I grow the most."

ESTELLA AGUILAR / THE RIP

Die-hard Rip reporters say goodbye

BY JARROD M. GRAHAM
Features Editor

Whether it's plucking away at a keyboard, putting the finishing touches on the latest football game story, trying to devise a fresh, new page design or any number of other things, it's been hard to miss them within the confines of the *Renegade Rip* newsroom in recent years.

But for Online Editor Michael D. Ross and staff sports writer Richard D. Whipple, the end of this semester marks not only the end of their tenure at Bakersfield College, but that of their long tenure on the staff of *The Renegade Rip*.

Ross' interest in journalism began at Frazier Mountain High School where he was a yearbook staffer, but his campus newspaper career began at the American School in Kuwait after his stepfather accepted a job offer with Texaco.

"I met the yearbook adviser and was kind of taking my tour of the campus... and these three girls come running up to me, and they say, 'Well, yeah, Mr. Chapman told us that you're signing up for yearbook,'" Ross said. "Well, we wanted to see if you'd do newspaper instead, because they've got 30 students in yearbook and only seven in newspaper. And you know I wasn't about to let three girls down. So I was like, 'Well, I've got three girls begging me to join the newspaper. I think I'll join the newspaper.'"

Ross started out doing photography for his high school paper, but also took on writing and served as sports editor and editor in chief before coming to *The Rip* as a staff writer in the fall of 1997.

"I knew someone who had taken newspaper at BC — they recommended Kathy (Freeman, the *Rip* adviser) highly — and I met Kathy while signing up for my classes," he said. "She was out there trying to get people enrolling in newspaper, and so I signed up for the class."

Ross has held many important jobs at *The Rip* since joining the staff, including the positions of opinion editor, managing editor and editor in chief for the 1999-2000 school year.

Whipple's interest sprang from his love of reading, and also writing, which he said allows him to express himself and his ideas.

"I think the thing I like about journalism is that I like to read a lot — I like to read Sports Illustrated, Rolling Stone Magazine and Maxim Magazine and I kind of like the idea that you can put some words together," he said. "I started off



ALYSSA D. STUMBO / THE RIP

After spending many years working together on *The Rip*, Online Editor Michael D. Ross and staff writer Richard D. Whipple will be leaving at the end of this semester.

in the broadcasting department at Bakersfield College one ago — we're talking about the mid-'80s. And right about the time I started on *The Renegade Rip*, the college radio station was slowly dying out, and because I was in radio, I kind of wanted to try something new... and journalism was it."

Whipple first joined *The Rip* in the 1993-94 school year, but took three years off from the paper to work and attend classes at California State University, Bakersfield. He rejoined the staff in the 1997 fall semester, primarily covering sports and acting as *The Rip*'s circulation department, dropping off the newspaper at the various on-campus distribution bins each Friday morning.

The question of who has been on the staff longer is often a point of lighthearted banter between Ross and Whipple, but in fact it is Whipple who holds the record with an accumulated five years.

"Rich is the journalism mascot," Ross said. "After semester's end, Ross plans to continue with his job at *The Bakersfield Californian* for the summer, and then continue on to Cal State Bakersfield for a quarter

Longtime BC staffers to retire

BY ELIZABETH GREGORY AND HENRY FRANCO
Rip staff writers

Philosophy professor David Rhea is one of many instructors saying goodbye to Bakersfield College this semester.

Rhea has decided to retire after instructing students for 34 years and will miss many aspects about BC.

"I'll miss teaching," he said. "I'll miss BC, of course, and to have a captive audience." Rhea's passion for teaching lies with enlightening his students with the knowledge they never received before.

"Seeing that light of understanding on a student's face and grasp a concept of something they had idea of before, and to see those faces grow with understanding is the passion that keeps me going," he said.

One of the biggest highlights of Rhea's teaching career is the many visits he took abroad.

"In conjunction with my teaching, I got to take trips around the world to help me understand religions. I got to travel to Pakistan... Europe and visit Israel," he said. "In one trip I got to go to the sacred places in India. That's the highlight of my career."

As he prepares to leave BC, Rhea is eager to give advice to all students.

"Pay attention to the humblest and perhaps the slowest student, because they can all learn. One of the greatest delights is teaching students, even though they're not going to Berkeley or USC," he said. "They enjoy what they're learning and (are) delighted to be here."

Other retirees include Sheran DeLeon, Gaylen Lewis, Edna Millard, Don Miller, Bill Nelson, Dorothy Stanley, Irene Spencer and Wendell Wall.

BC pep band set to make comeback in fall semester

BY SHANNON POWELL
Rip staff writer

Bakersfield College football fans can look forward to more lively halftime shows next fall.

The pep band is coming back to BC at the request of fans after more than a decade-long absence.

BC athletics director Jan Stuebbe said that halftime periods have been "dead" without the pep band.

"I have been asked repeatedly over the years by students and community members when the pep band is going to come back" he said. "It will add spirit and fun to the games."

Stuebbe said anyone who plays an instrument can join the band as long as they are 18 to 50. The number of band members will range from 20 to 50 members.

Stuebbe believes that the pep band will attract more fans at BC games.

"We want to fulfill student needs and community needs," he said. "The pep band is expected to begin playing at BC football games in September and eventually at other BC activities."

For more information contact Stuebbe at 395-4269.

BC newspaper staff receives journalism honors

Students earn 14 awards at state conference.

BY LIZ WHITE
Rip staff writer

As in past years, the Bakersfield College *Renegade Rip* staff walked away with numerous awards at the Journalism Association of Community Colleges state competition.

The conference was held April 27-29 at California State University, Fresno.

Nine of the 25 *Renegade Rip* staff members were selected to compete at the annual event.

Types of competitions included mail-in, bring-in, and on-the-spot competitions.

Nearly 500 students from California and parts of Arizona took part in the conference, with 50 to 100 students competing in each category.

"The competition was extra stiff and our students did extremely well considering how many competed against each other," said *Rip* adviser Katie Price. "Five out of nine (students) placing in on-the-spot is pretty good."

Standouts in on-the-spot performances included Opinion Editor Rachel Cribbs, who took second place for front-page layout; staff writer Henry Franco, who won third place for his feature story; and staff photographer Todd E. Swenson, who took third in the sports photo competition.

"The competition was really heavy and we met a lot of interesting people," Cribbs said. "So that made it fun."

Mail-in winners included Photo Editor Aron Vietti, Sports Editor Leanne Cave, Online Editor Michael D. Ross and staff photographer Jose Pimentel.

Next year, the JACC state competition will be held in Sacramento.



ROD THORNBERG / SPECIAL TO THE RIP

The staff of *The Renegade Rip* poses with their awards from JACC.

'THE MUMMY Returns'

Sequel stinks, should remain entombed in desert.

BY RACHEL CRIBBS
Opinion Editor

If George Lucas, Steven Spielberg and John Woo decided to make a movie that would combine all of their directing techniques, that film would be called "The Mummy Returns."

Oh yes, the mummy is back, bigger and better than ever, with fabulous computer graphics and kick-ass fight scenes that go on longer than the reign of the pharaohs.

The entire film, directed by Stephen Sommers, is a heart-pounding, fast-paced brawl that starts in London and travels the globe to the mythical oasis of Ahm Shere. We see fight moves that mirror Tom Cruise in "Mission Impossible II" and a crazed bot tearing through the streets just like in "Speed."

But when the mummy returns, he forgets to bring with him one very important element: a plot. Oh sure, there is a feeble attempt at a plot: Evelyn and Rick must fight a 3,000-year-old mummy, who — all together now — wants to take over the world. Wow. Original. Where have we heard this intricate and insightful story before? Oh that's right, in the 1999 film "The Mummy," starring the exact same people, except for an oh so important professional wrestler.

Brendan Fraser is back as Rick O'Connell, the wisecracking, sexy Indiana Jones wannabe. But sorry ladies, Rick is no longer on the market. He married Evelyn (Rachel Weisz) way before the mummy even thought of returning. I guess relationships based under extreme circumstances can work out.

Fraser is an extremely talented actor and does the jokingly serious hero bit well.

Weisz is a great intelligent librarian who has "Egypt in her blood." But she needs to ditch some of that makeup. Maybe Sommers was trying to make her look more mysterious. It was definitely over the top.

Arnold Vosloo returns as the love-starved, Earth-conquering mummy Imhotep. But this time he's got his woman with him. Patricia Velasquez is the beautiful and sinister Anck-Su-Namun. Remember her two lines in "The Mummy" and her 10 minutes of walking around naked? Yeah, same girl. What was surprising and pleasing is that this time her character has so much more depth.

Now in this melee of returning actors are two new faces, who turned out to be a complete waste of time, money and promotion. Freddie Boath is Alex, Evelyn and Rick's precocious little imp of a son who knows all there is to know about Egypt at the tender age of 7. What a clever boy. Yeah, right.

Boath gives a striking performance that characterized that annoying kid who played Anakin Skywalker. Imhotep is constantly threatening the child with death and by the end, you're hoping Imhotep will actually do it just to shut the kid up.

And we must not forget the emotionally empty and moronic performance of Dwayne Johnson, better known to mindless WWF crazed twits as The Rock. His character, The Scorpion King, is obviously an idiot because all he can say is "Aaaaauuggghhh!" (direct quote). In the film, The Rock is doing what he does best: pretending to beat up others and screaming unintelligible sounds.

Sorry WWF fans, if you came to "The Mummy Returns" expecting to see The Rock give an Oscar-winning performance in his first actual role, he's got maybe 10 minutes onscreen and then he turns into a computer generation. That has got to be a blow to The Rock's overinflated ego. Ten minutes and then he's told to take a permanent coffee break.

The computer-generated images are astounding. The powerful army of Anubis, the breathtaking Oasis of Ahm Shere and the beautiful backgrounds are amazingly real.

The movie breaks new ground in computer graphics. But it doesn't break new ground in directing. Sommers rips off every action-adventure blockbuster from "The Lost World" to "Star Wars," in one scene, an attack on Ahm Shere looks strangely just like the velociraptor attack in "The Lost World: Jurassic Park."

And remember those horrible little Ewoks in "Return of the Jedi"? Well they're worse on Ahm Shere. The creatures Sommers spent all of two minutes inventing remind you of rabid pygmies crossed with a deranged Ewok.

One annoying thing that occurred the whole film is in fact copycats of the original mummy.

For example: Alex accidentally knocks over some ancient columns that just happen to be in a circle.

Overall, "The Mummy Returns" is a good action flick, if you don't mind shutting off your brain for two hours and seeing overused fight moves from every other blockbuster.



PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSAL PICTURES

Brendan Fraser and Rachel Weisz star in "The Mummy Returns," the sequel to the Universal's 1999 blockbuster "The Mummy," a loose adaptation of the 1933 classic.

They all crumble like dominoes. Gee, doesn't that sound familiar? Then Imhotep does that amazing sand wall trick, but this time with water. Wow. His powers are so overused.

A word of warning though, if you want to see "The Mummy Returns," make sure you see "The Mummy"

first. Otherwise, you will have no idea what is going on when Rick reminds Evelyn that "no harm came from reading a book either, remember how that turned out?" Or when Alex is trying to decipher the same inscription Jonathan (John Hannah) was that looked "like a

bird... a stork!" Or even why the mummy is returning in the first place.

Overall, "The Mummy Returns" is a good action flick, if you don't mind shutting off your brain for two hours and seeing overused fight moves from every other blockbuster.

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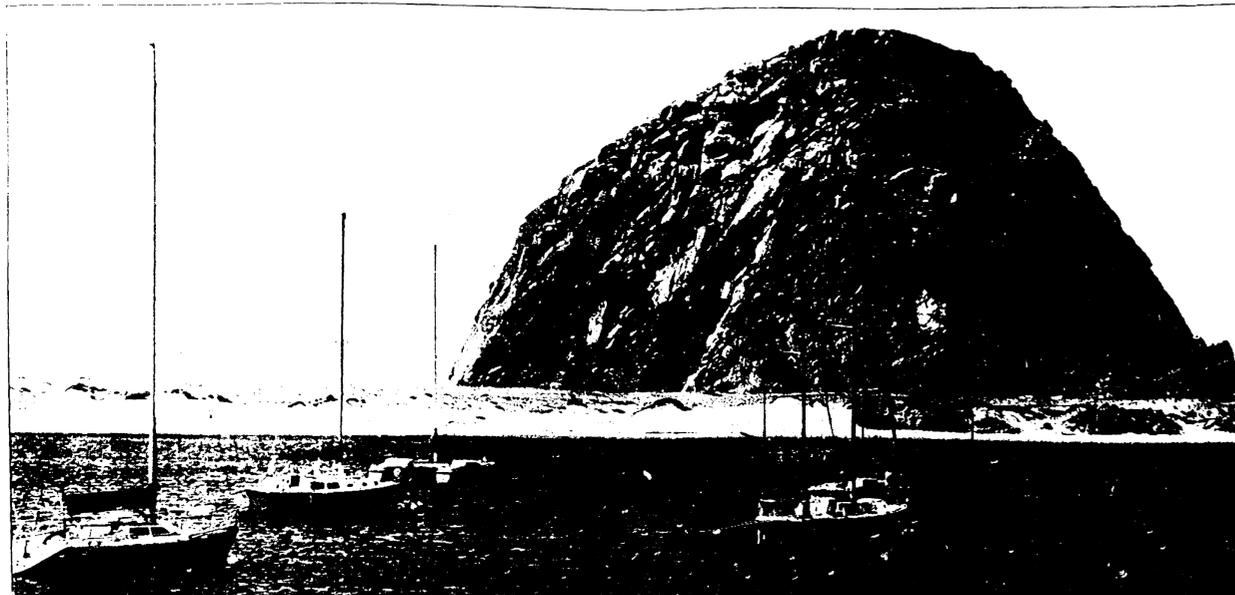
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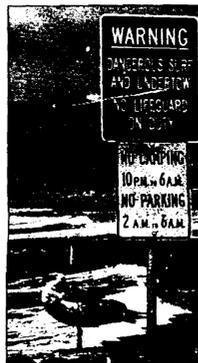


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Nick Klingerman and Keri Bess discover the animal life on the shoreline of Morro Bay.

BEACH BUMMIN'



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PHOTOS AND STORY BY TODD E. SWENSON
Rip staff photographer

When life in Bak-town gets a little boring, what are you going to do? Take a road trip to the beach with some of your closest friends. Kick back, relax and have a good time. If you find time, take a history lesson and go down to the park and museum of natural history. When you get there, take advantage of everything that you can in the amount of time that you have. Go to the beach and lay out. Go into town and do a little shopping. Find out where the locals go and blend in. Whatever you end up doing, have a good time.

weekend of July 8, the annual "Rock to the Pier Run" will be going on. It occurs on the lowest tide of the year.

If you get a chance, check out the aquarium. You will find a lot of interesting fish and get to see some performing harbor seals in action.

Organization of these trips is hardly necessary, but can work to your advantage. Get everything together and go, that is the best way to do it. If you are one of those organizational freaks, start looking at what is happening on the coast during a particular week.

For example, Morro Bay is known for its art fairs and special events in the park. During the

Double ELIMINATION

'Gades suffer losses in softball playoffs.

BY RICHARD D. WHIPPLE
Rip staff writer

The Bakersfield College softball team's run for the state title ended this past weekend at the Southern California Regionals in Santa Ana, with the hosts providing the knockout punch.

The Santa Ana Dons, led by Marie Caballero, defeated the Renegades 3-2 and 8-0 on successive days in the double-elimination tournament.

"Santa Ana is definitely a very talented team," BC softball coach Sandi Taylor said. "They were co-champs with Fullerton (in their Orange Empire Conference) this season. They got the breaks when they needed it (in their games against BC)."

Sandwiched between the BC losses, was a hard fought 2-0 whitewash over Cuesta College that enabled the 'Gades to have the second chance against Santa Ana. In the shutout win, Jennifer Bess pitched a complete game for her 10th victory of the season, a team high.

"We scored in the first inning," Taylor said when reflecting on the game. "Jennifer and our defense did a good job making the two runs stand up."

BC finished the season 24-17-1, going 14-7 in the Western State Conference Southern Division. The league record was good enough for the 'Gades to finish second, behind division champion College of the Canyons.

According to Taylor, she is satisfied with the season's results.

"We peaked at the right time and were playing our best softball. I was real pleased with the progress that we made and the goals we accomplished."

—Sandi Taylor,
BC softball coach

"We peaked at the right time and were playing our best softball," she said. "I was real pleased with the progress that we made and the goals we accomplished."

Teresa Guerrero, Tammy Hilvers, Jennifer Cook, Tiffany Leonard and Candice Swan led a BC hitting attack that had an overall team batting average of .334 throughout the season.

"The pitching of Lanelle Morris, Bess and Swan was superb as the trio combined for a 1.51 team earned run average going into the postseason. Taylor is looking ahead to the future.

"Out of 14 players, seven were freshmen and seven were sophomores," Taylor said. "We hope to get all the returners back and have a good recruiting class come in next year."



Second baseman Erika Plaza makes a play and attempts to throw for another out.

Arena football will blitz Bakersfield in the spring of 2002

BY LEANNE CAVE
Sports Editor

It will be a "cool" day for arena football fans when the Bakersfield Blitz makes its debut in 2002 at Centennial Garden.

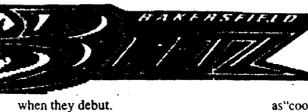
Bakersfield, long known for its rich roots in country music, with the likes of Buck Owens and Merle Haggard, has also become an avid sports town rich in history and tradition.

This is the case, not only in high school and college athletics, but now with

professional organizations.

The Blitz will be one of four semi-professional franchises that sports fans can cheer on in the upcoming year.

The three teams that have entertained hometown fans through the decades are the Blaze, once known as the B-Dodgers (baseball), the Condors (hockey) and the Panthers (another semi-pro football team). The Blitz will be a member of the Western Region and bring its orange and blue eight man attack to town next spring



when they debut.

The Los Angeles Avengers took on the Arizona Rattlers in an exhibition game in April in front of 5,254 pumped up fans.

The game provided a streetball type of football (more passing, less running) that was entertaining as jock rock played over the loud

speaker the entire game. The af2 introduced its cheerleading squad, the "A-Team."

The up close and personal game which is played on a 50-yard field, was described as "cool" or "awesome" by fans cheering in the stands.

At times the players were knocked around into the arena walls, (the walls being the sideline or boundaries) like bumper cars which thrilled the fans.

Fifteen-year-old Richard Rapp said that

he enjoyed the game because some of the players ended up over the wall. "It was awesome," Rapp said. "They should put more guys over the walls."

Brett Clark, an offensive/defensive lineman for the Avengers, starred at Bakersfield High, Bakersfield College and Southern University before joining arenafootball2.

"It's exciting to be home," Clark said. "I think the Blitz will do well. Bakersfield has a good fan base." His message to the fans: "Keep on coming."

Katie,
Thank you so much for everything you've done this semester. We couldn't have asked for a better fill-in adviser. Don't be a stranger next year. Come back and visit us!
Best wishes,
The editors and staff of The Renegade Rip

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Todd Swenson-3rd place, Sports Photo
Aron Vietti-HM, Sports Photo
Ryan Knaggs-HM, Sports Story
Mike Ross-2nd place, Bring-in Info. Graphic
Mike Ross-3rd place, Bring-in Photo Illustration
Mail-in Awards:
John Amundsen-2nd place, Sports Feature Photo
Jose Pimentel-4th place, Sports Feature Photo
Jon Riel-HM, Line Illustration
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'GADE NEWSLINE

Californian gift upgrades computers

The Bakersfield Californian recently donated 13 Macintosh computers to the Bakersfield College journalism program. The gift is the largest equipment donation that the BC journalism program has received in years and will improve efficiency for the Renegade Rip staff. The Californian also gives journalism scholarships and sponsors activities such as the High School J-Day competition and the Summer Multicultural Journalism Workshop.

Students exhibit art in Jones Gallery

"Student Salon 2001" is May's student art exhibit in the Wylie and May Louise Jones Gallery in the BC library. Works on display include painting, drawing, photography, printmaking, glass, ceramics, computer graphics and jewelry, according to gallery director Theresia Rosa Kleeman. The exhibit will remain open through May 24. Gallery hours are Monday from noon to 8 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, call 395-4616.

Picnic at outdoor spring concert

There's something for every musical taste at the "Pops and Other Things" spring concert at BC on Friday, May 18. The program includes original compositions by BC students as well as music by Leonard Bernstein, "The African Concerto" complete with African drummers and famed composer S. Kwaku Daddy and Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture. Doors open at 6 p.m. with the concert at 7 p.m. in the BC Outdoor Theater. Tickets are \$1. Concert goers are invited to bring a picnic lunch and enjoy the concert under the stars.

Ebola virus poster wins competition

Bakersfield College student Kathryn Brinkley won the award for best math poster for the Southern California section of the Mathematical Association of America in March. The Ebola virus was the focus of a mathematical model formulated by Brinkley for the competition. Also participating in the event were BC students Jeannine Cavazos, Dan Cronquist, Lee Hyatt, Brandon McNaughton and Daniel Rife.

Math student wins with highest score

Sean Knight won this year's BC Math Contest scholarship. Knight recorded the highest score in two of three rounds and highest overall score. Students interested in competing this fall can contact Janet Tarjan before the semester begins. Exams are precalculus and below.

— Compiled by Jarrod M. Graham
Features Editor

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Q&A with DeAnn Sampley

By Estella Aguilar
Rip staff writer

DeAnn Sampley teaches American Sign Language (ASL) 1, 3, and 7 at Bakersfield College. She has been teaching at BC for 21 years and she received her Master's Degree from Cal State Bakersfield.

Q: "Why did you decide on a career in ASL?"

A: "I decided on a career in ASL because my younger cousin was deaf. When I was young, we would see him during the holidays and nobody signed with him. Then I became a student at Bakersfield College when I was 18. And I was in a computer class and I noticed there was an interpreter in the back

of the room. And I thought 'I've got to learn that. I've got to learn to communicate with my cousin.' So I fell in love with it. It was a natural thing to me. And I dropped the computer class, and took the sign language class. That's how it started. And it kept me in college and I found my passion. I found something I excelled in."

Q: "Why do you think communication is so imperative, especially since so much can be misconstrued?"

A: "If you don't have communication, you don't have relationships. And I love that quote

from Helen Keller. She said if she had to choose between deafness and blindness, she would definitely choose to be blind. Because blindness separated her from things, and deafness separated her from people. My son is deaf, we adopted a boy and I thought deafness is not a disability for him. It's the isolation. Living with deafness, day in and day out, has taught me how important communication is in developing relationships, developing self-esteem. It's learning about the world around you, learning about people. To just become a healthier human being, you need to have communication.



It's imperative in relationships with people."

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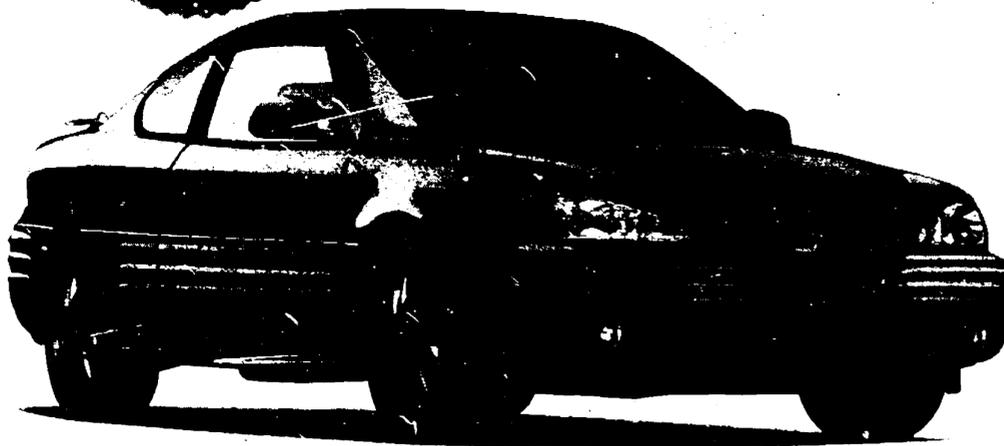
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