



THE RENEGADE RIP

www.therip.com

Vol. 73 • No. 13

Bakersfield College

October 4, 2002



Jenny Alva trades lines with local actor Bob Kempf during a Sept. 27 dress rehearsal of "The Merry Wives of Windsor."

the Curtain Rises

Shakespeare Festival kicks off its 18th year with performances of the playwright's lesser known works.

By BEN OLIVER
Rip staff writer

Randy Messick, head of the Theatre Arts Department at Bakersfield College, sits in his office on the phone, simultaneously writing on a piece of paper.

He rushes to get his work done. He knows he only has a matter of days to make things perfect. However, he does manage to maintain a cheerful demeanor as he goes about his work.

He doesn't seem like he'd ever have any trouble or regrets as far as the works of William Shakespeare are concerned. He has always had an extremely high opinion of Shakespeare's plays.

"(He's) Spielberg times a thousand!" he declares.

The love that he shares with the actors, directors and stage crew members for the playwright's work is on display in the 18th annual Kern Shakespeare Festival.

This year, the Theatre Arts Department is presenting "The Merry Wives of Windsor," a comedy directed by BC theater professor Kim Chin,

■ **ONLINE:** Log on to www.therip.com next week to read reviews of both plays featured in this year's Kern Shakespeare Festival.

about a man named John Falstaff who tries to con two women to gain their affection, and possibly a little more.

They also are performing the more dramatic play "Titus Andronicus," directed by community actor Bob Kempf, which Messick describes as "an all-out gore fest."

When the Theatre Arts Department presents a play by Shakespeare, they often take some creative liberties as far as the era of the plays' settings. In previous years, actors performed "The Taming of the Shrew" as a Western, and "A Midsummer Night's Dream" set in the Victorian era.

This year, "The Merry Wives of Windsor," takes place on the high seas with characters being portrayed as pirates, and "Titus Andronicus," is played as a modern warring country.

Most people may not be familiar with the slightly obscure plays chosen this year, but

Messick shrugs all of this off. He is confident that even the lesser known plays of Shakespeare will be enjoyed by all.

"This year, the plays have something for all tastes," Messick said. "We have a romantic comedy, and a nice slasher, so it'll be fun."

In addition to BC students, the plays feature several community actors, including Monica Nadon, Corky Rickard, Pam Soler and Kempf. Even Messick appearing in the plays.

"We wanted to invite in some professional actors, that way it would be a better experience for the student actors as well as the audience," Chin said.

"Titus Andronicus" opened Wednesday and "The Merry Wives of Windsor" opened Thursday.

The shows alternate Wednesday through Saturday over the next two weeks until the closing night of "The Merry Wives of Windsor," on Oct. 19.

Tickets go on sale at the door at 6 p.m. and doors open at 7. Prices are \$5 for students and seniors, and \$8 for general admission. Children under 5 will not be admitted.



Randy Messick, left, threatens Andrew Hupp on stage during "The Merry Wives of Windsor" dress rehearsal.

Photos by John Vodopija / The Rip

Portfolio fund hits \$22 million

Union questions district's withholding of money amid budget problems.

By LORENZO MIRANDA
Rip staff writer

Del Allen says he wants to know why Bakersfield College classified staff faces cutbacks when the Kern Community College District has \$22 million in a portfolio fund.

Allen, president of the classified employees' union, wants officials to explain the purpose of \$22,024,538 that is sitting in the district's quarterly portfolio report, the total of the funds and collected interest compiled from money put aside from September 1998 to June 2002. The money has grown through money-market funds, government agency securities, insured certificates of deposit and U.S. corporate bonds, according to a district report.

Classified employees are in the middle of negotiations with the district, facing a reduction of job hours for part- and full-time employees, causing some retirements to be delayed, he said.

"They came in here with the intent that (the employees) were full-time 12-month employees drawing x dollars and now just because of bad management of the district, that concept keeps changing. It's a very unstable working environment," said Allen.

"How can I take this back to the people that I represent? Tell them you are going to take a financial loss, that you are going to have to work longer in this district to get your retirement because you are working less now when this district has 21 million-and-some-odd dollars sitting there. It doesn't seem fair."

Allen cited third-quarter earnings to arrive at the \$21 million mark. However, with fourth-quarter earnings, the actual amount now exceeds

\$22 million, according to Tom Burke, assistant chancellor of business services for the district. While Allen wants part of the money used to offset staff reductions, Burke maintains that the district can only borrow from the fund, but can't permanently spend it.

The fund is being held to pay off a balance of a little more than \$90 million that is due on certificates of participation started on Sept. 1, 1998. These bondlike debt instruments have a deadline to be paid off by the year 2025.

In 1998, the Kern Community College District Public Facilities Corporation issued and sold \$48 million in certificates of participation. The district makes annual payments to the investors through State Street Bank, according to documents provided by Burke.

"The primary use of that money is to pay back the certificates of participation holders now and in the future," said Burke. "Because that money is significantly larger than our reserve requirements on the fund and our payment obligations, we can temporarily borrow from it to help ease the impact on the budget of the reduced income received by the state."

Burke explained that under a state-scheduled maintenance program, the state provides matching funds for maintenance of campus facilities.

"But you have to match it dollar for dollar. We have traditionally budgeted \$900,000 to a million a year for our matching requirements to scheduled maintenance."

But because of the district's proposed \$180 million bond measure on the November ballot, district officials have a "unique opportunity," he said. The district can borrow from the portfolio fund to pay for the matching fund requirement, he said.

"Basically, the opportunity for us is that we can shift that matching

See PORTFOLIO, Page 3

Year	Rate	Amount	Value	Value
2002	3.800%	\$220,000	\$2,323,615	\$2,543,615
2015	5.000%	\$1,090,000	\$1,953,250	\$3,043,250
2025	5.000%	\$7,315,000	\$365,750	\$7,680,750

Source: Tom Burke, KCCD

JARROD M. GRAHAM / THE RIP



SEAN LEWIS / THE RIP

A mooving moment

A pair of cows chow down on some hay at the animal stables Sept. 29 at the Kern County Fair. The fair runs through Sunday.

Audit gives college a clean slate

Report clears BC of alleged misdeeds in construction.

By TAMI OLIVARES
Rip staff writer

An independent audit of Bakersfield College and the Kern Community College District found no improper mishandling of campus construction projects as alleged by a complaint filed with the Kern County grand jury, according to the final auditing report.

The results of the audit conclude that BC and the district had appropriate management of the three major construction projects on campus: the Child Development Center, the Student Services building seismic retrofit and the new Olympic-size pool.

While BC did not break any rules, the district failed to properly document its construction practices or adhere to deadlines and time extensions as stated in their contracts, according to the audit, the district should also improve procedures for recovering costs of electricity used by contractors.

Former Kern County Superintendent

of Schools Kelly Blanton and Bakersfield businessman Ray Dezember were chosen to coordinate the \$24.5 million independent audit, which was conducted by MGT of America, an independent management consulting firm.

Blanton said the only instances that were found not to be in compliance were on small projects.

"The audit shows no money was missing, and no projects were started and abandoned, just that proper documentation has to be made," said Blanton.

The audit was made as a result of Bill Rush, BC director of facilities planning and construction management, complaining to the Kern County grand jury in April. Rush alleged that misappropriate handling of campus construction projects were made when contractors failed to reimburse BC for electricity used on projects and did not adhere to fines imposed by their contracts for completing a project beyond the set deadline. Rush also accused BC of illegally splitting bids on projects to avoid state laws.

Rush was placed on paid administrative leave in May after contacting the grand jury. This prompted him to also file a complaint with the State Person-

nel Board. In an interview with *The Bakersfield Californian*, he alleged he was put on administrative leave because of his complaint to the grand jury.

Rush returned to work in July. He and his attorney, Dee Stasopoulos, refused to comment on audit's findings.

"Anyone has a right to complain," said Blanton. "The fact that he was an employee who had some direct responsibility in that area made it more imperative to check."

Blanton suggested a program be implemented like the one used by the Kern County Superintendent of Schools Office. The Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team, under the direction of the state, would oversee the district and their practices.

Blanton said had this type of team been used in this instance, the administration would have been warned before hand of proper handling.

Michele Bresso, director of marketing and public relations, said college officials would adhere to the recommendations in the audit. BC is establishing procedures to monitor payment of prevailing wages and project managers will also start keeping proper paperwork, she said.

Full of Bull

Unlike animal rights activists, cowboys at fair maintain rodeo is humane, not cruel.

By TRACY HOSTMYER
Campus Editor

Climbing off of his horse after roping a calf at the PRCA Rodeo at the fair Sept. 27, Luke Garrett said he understands why some people would think that rodeos are cruel to animals.

"I can see if you don't know anything about it," the 19-year-old Bakersfield native said.

"That's why we're in this sport is because we have the love of the animals,"

— Travis Fowler, cowboy

"But if you realize a lot of us are giving \$30,000 or \$40,000 for some of these horses and we're going to make sure they're taken care of, because if something happens to them, that's money out of our pocket."

If animal rights proponents saw what goes into a rodeo to prepare the animals, they might change

their stance, he said.

"If people just came and looked at how we take care of everything and just the preparation, they would probably have a different opinion, but just seeing they think of the bull riding. 'Oh, they're hurting them.'"

Another cowboy, Travis Fowler, 35, from Santa Maria, said that "by no means" are animals mistreated.

"The majority of the people have it opposite. I think we care for our animals and love our animals very much. That's why we're in this sport is because we have the love of the animals," he said.

Cowboys enjoy competing and showing off the animals' abilities, he added.

Dugan Kelly, 24, from Paso Robles, has been competing in rodeos for four years. His dad is a veterinarian so Kelly has been around horses his whole life.

He said cowboys take "better care of their animals than backyard horses, trail horses or anything else."

Stock contractors also take excellent care of the bulls and bucking broncs, he said.

"If they've got a horse that's sick or sore you aren't going to work and you aren't going to win any money," he said.



ROGER HORNBACK / THE RIP

Outside the rodeo area, Joy Haddock tries her luck on a mechanical bull.

Rodeo animals have a longer lifespan than many others, according to Travis Ortiz, 22, from Acton, Calif., who has roped since he was a child.

"They butcher animals so I don't think this could be any worse, but they (horses and bulls), work two or three minutes out of the year and the rest of the time they're turned out and they live to 10, 11, 12 years and horses live until the day they die (naturally). They don't send them to the butchers or nothing, they'll just keep them on the ranch and feed them. With the calves, once they get bigger they turn into bulls."

Thomas Peter, 21, from Modesto has been riding bulls for 10 years. Peter said that animal rights groups

are necessary to ensure animals stay safe, he said.

"Calves are not roped too many times or even used if they aren't healthy, he explained.

"Bulls have the advantage over riders, he said.

"That's 2,000 pounds against 185. The bulls (have) got the upper hand that's for sure.

"They've got you in the chute, if they really want to get you then they will," he said. "A lot of them, they'll sit there and let you get your things ready, but when the gate opens then it's their turn to play and they understand that. 'The bulls know when it's their turn to try and do something they give fair shots, some of them don't, but most of them do.'"



ROGER HORNBACK / THE RIP

Brett Crouser shows his skills with his horse Ace of Spades.

'GADE NEWSLINE

BC Homecoming needs royal candidates

Students who are interested in running for Homecoming King or queen should contact the Student Activities Office at 395-4255.

Applications must be submitted by Oct. 17. Requirements are enrollment in six units, a minimum GPA of 2.3 and purchase of an ASBC sticker. Students can run independently or represent a club.

Faculty members interested in interviewing the candidates also should contact the office. Andrew Bickers, director of student activities, estimated the interviews would take three hours during the week of Oct. 14, the week before Homecoming.

The Council of the Blind seeks members

The Greater Bakersfield Council of the Blind is seeking new members.

The group meets on the second Saturday of every month from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired at 1124 Baker St. For more information, call Lupe at 833-3663.

Enjoy fine dining at the Renegade Room

Marinated lamb, orange roughy en papillote and veal scaloppini are some of the entrees that can be enjoyed in the Renegade Room restaurant in the FACE building. The restaurant is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 to 7 p.m. For more information, call 395-4441.

BC livestock team wins awards at fair shows

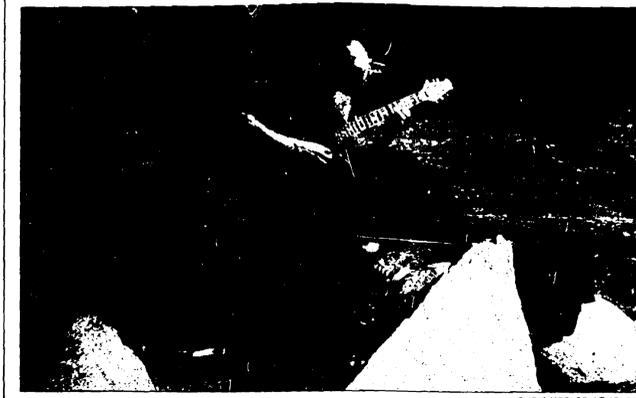
The BC Livestock Show Team took the following awards at the Los Angeles County Fair recently: Kristen Westerfield, Grand Champion Collegiate Market Hog, Res. Grand Champion Collegiate Market Hog, and Justin Price, Reserve Champion Collegiate Showmanship, according to Gay Gardella, BC agricultural professor.

The college ag ambassadors also took second place for their display at this year's Kern County Fair in Buring 1.

Kern Shakespeare Festival is here

This year's Kern Shakespeare Festival at Bakersfield College will present the tragedy "Titus Andronicus" and the comedy "The Merry Wives of Windsor" through Oct. 19. Tickets are \$8 adults, \$5 students and seniors. No children under the age of 5 will be admitted. For more information, call 395-4326.

— Compiled by staff writer Jennifer Hubbell



CHRIS KEELER / THE RIP

Rockin' Out

Bakersfield College student Michael Daily enjoys cooler temperatures Tuesday by playing a tune on his guitar to an audience of boulders.

Lack of ID cards creates headaches

By COURTNEY ROSS
Rip staff writer

Bakersfield College students haven't been able to have their student identification photos taken because the company that creates ID cards has gone out of business.

Problems with the GADES cards have been occurring since this summer, according to Andrew Bickers, director of student activities.

"Since receiving the announcement about the company going out of business they have been researching different options," he said.

Bickers said he hopes college officials approve a new vendor soon so the Associated Students of Bakersfield College can begin producing cards within a month.

"This is affecting students now," he said. "They are unable to get an ID card. Key situations on campus like the library and computer lab have come up with other ways to service the students during this time."

The cards are required for checking out books, but the library is issuing temporary student identification cards. Students can work on computers without an ID card, but must either e-mail the work home to be printed or pay cash for each print in the BC library.

"I hope we can produce ID cards for those that don't have one very shortly. It is an unfortunate situation that we did not expect," he said.

In the meantime, students are relying upon other forms of ID in place of the GADES cards.

"It can be a hassle not having a GADES card in some situations, but in most situations you can use your ID or driver's license," said student Nacoya Henry.

Student Audra Austin said printing without the card is the problem.

"I can use my driver's license instead, but I do need a GADES card," she said. "The only way I can print things is by going in the library and paying cash using my driver's license."

PORTFOLIO: Union wants answers on district millions

Continued from Page 1

requirement and take it out of local bond proceeds if (the bond measure) is successful. We are borrowing from ourselves from the cash available from the payment of certificates of participation. If it doesn't pass, we will have to pay back that loan from out of the certificates of participation restrictive fund and pay it out over a four-year period."

Even though the district borrowed from the fund, officials can't borrow to offset staff cuts, he said.

"The cash that is there is an integral part of paying

back the certificates of participation over time. So basically I'm limited on what I can use, because I can only borrow it, I can't permanently take it," said Burke.

"What Del is thinking is why can't we use more of this money? Well, if I do, I have to find more money in the future."

Allen disagrees. "If we are in a financial crisis and they have this money, what are they saving it for, a rainy day? I think they better be aware that we just had a severe storm warning posted. Pull some of that money out and get us stable. There is a lot of other ways outside of hurting employees," he said.

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Taking Aim

Arthur Gray prepares to take a shot at a target mounted on a hay bale during the coed archery class Tuesday. One of Gray's shots struck another student's arrow with a direct hit, slightly splitting it from the rear. Gray is the public relations senator for the Associated Students of Bakersfield College.

'Gades face tough challenge

By LEANNE CAVE
Rip staff writer

The Bakersfield College Renegades will travel to Ventura College Saturday with high hopes of rebounding from a disappointing 21-14 loss to the Moorpark Raiders at home Sept. 28. It will be a tough test as Ventura gave BC all it could handle last year.

"Ventura gave us fits last year at our place," head coach Dallas Grider said. "They are always shooting for us. It will be a tough game on the road."

So far Memorial Stadium has presented no home field advantage for the 'Gades in 2002 as their only win was a narrow 28-21 come from behind victory on the road over West Hills in Coalinga. The 'Gades' record now stands at 1-2.

"They're a pretty good bunch of guys. They play well together," said Ventura head coach Terry Morris. "We expect a tough game. They have all the tradition in the world and a great coaching staff. We know they are struggling early but they still have a lot of tradition on their side and they'll be ready to play."

The loss to Moorpark was especially disappointing because BC played well enough offensively and defensively to win the game.

It was the inconsistent play of the special teams and mental errors that were costly for the 'Gades.

"The offensive and defensive performance was a legitimate effort," Grider said. "I was disappointed with the execution on special teams."

Special team play, which is normally a strong point for BC, wasn't on this night. The 'Gades missed a 30-yard field



CHRIS KEELER / THE RIP

BC's Josh Lopes, No. 20, breaks into the open field with the help of a lead block by tight end Chad Gamboni, No. 85.

goal. Greg Morris of Moorpark scampered 31 yards on a punt return to give the Raiders good field position inside the 20.

This set up the second score of the evening for Moorpark, giving the Raiders a commanding 14-0 lead. However the final blow came with 1:19 left in the game.

With Moorpark having a 21-14 lead and the ball, the BC defense stepped up and forced the Raiders to punt. This would have given the 'Gades the ball and one last opportunity to tie the score.

But BC was flagged for roughing the punter, which is a 15-yard penalty and a Moorpark first down. The Raiders ran out the clock, preserving the 21-14 victory.

The BC offense showed some consistency as quarterback Nathan Baker, who replaced an injured George Valos, connected on eight of 15 passes for 115 yards.

"I'm glad to be starting for BC," Baker said. "Against Ventura we can't make the mental mistakes and we have to play a good overall football game."

Josh Lopes provided a solid running game for the 'Gades as he ran for 102 yards on 24 carries, scoring six of the 14 points. The play of quarterbacks Mario Fernandez and Justin Heimiller was encouraging as Heimiller came in and threw a 7-yard touchdown pass to LaRon Mitchell, giving BC its second touchdown of the game.

Saturday will be a test to see if the 'Gades are getting better. Game time is scheduled for 7 p.m.

Goalkeeper Nicole Berrigan had four saves as BC outshot L.A. Valley 21-3.

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SPORTS DIGEST

BC runner finishes first at event

Giovani Perezchica led the men's cross country team to a second place finish during the Orange Coast Invitational Saturday in Costa Mesa.

The women's team finished in fifth place.

Perezchica won the race with a personal best time of 20 minutes, 32 seconds.

Brooklan Grimes and Adela Flores

both finished in the top 20.

Grimes posted a time of 20:45, which was good for 12th place. Flores had a time of 21:15 and finished in 20th place.

'Gades record conference win

Shonda Amos scored two goals and had one assist as the Renegades soccer team (5-5-2) shut out L.A. Valley 3-0 at the BC soccer complex Tuesday.

Enaida Beltran scored the first goal of

the match in the 19th minute on an assist by Amos.

Jennifer Elliott assisted on the first goal by Amos in the 55th minute and Ashley Ortiz assisted on her second goal in the 88th minute.

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— Compiled by Sports Editor Demetrious Blackmon



ROGER HORNBACK / THE RIP

Sammy, a California sea lion, shows off during a show at the fair last week.

Splashing into Show Business

By TAMI OLIVARES
Rip staff writer

Some girls will do anything for applause.

It is even more gratifying if you throw in some sardines, as in the case of three female sea lions at the Kern County fair.

Two Argentinian sea lions and one California sea lion are the attractions of Squalis, a traveling aquatic act.

Sammy, a California sea lion, the spunkiest of the bunch, stole the show with her playful and mischievous acts. She caught four out of six rings tossed to her and begged for more playtime. She spent most

of her time following the trainer around the stage.

Alicia and Minnie, both Patagonian sea lions, were slower to respond but were poised and made fewer mistakes. Twice as big as Sammy, they both lifted their bodies balancing themselves on their front flippers and clapped their flippers in anticipation of more applause.

All three sea lions are estimated to be the same age, in their mid-20s. They were placed with the Peters family five years ago and were raised in captivity.

"South Americans (sea lions) are a lot bigger because

they live in colder climates," said Kathi Peters, wife of trainer Marco Peters.

Marco Peters owns and operates the traveling aquarium that converts into an aquatic showcase with boulders and above-ground pool.

He said he has 30 years of experience with exotic animals and also owns a traveling shark exhibit.

Peters said it was not hard to train the sea lions. Mammals make continuous repetitive movements in their environment, he said.

"It is an extension of their natural behavior," he said. "We just add comedy."



ROGER HORNBACK / THE RIP

Sammy barks at the audience during a traveling aquatic act that visited the fair recently.

The Renegade Rip's E-mail Edition.



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Daily Weather.

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SEAN LEWIS / THE RIP

Buzz Cut

Darin Hargis gives his goat Tamar a trim before the livestock show at the Kern County Fair on Sept. 29.

Fair-time means having to spend the day with your family

By AMBER GARCIA
Rip staff writer

When I think of family fun, three words come to mind: Chinese water torture.

But since none of that is on hand, I guess the Kern County Fair will suffice.

FIRST PERSON

Yes, that's right, the only place where you can blow an entire paycheck on failed attempts to win your girlfriend a stuffed toy gorilla holding a heart that says "I love Pookie" on it and purchase a funnel cake that takes a detour of the human stomach and heads straight for the heart, where it can dance a jig of glee with its friend, El Señor Fairground Churro.

Ah, you can smell it in the air when you walk around the fairgrounds: A mixture of hay, popcorn, cotton candy and hoards of people who have been fermenting in the sun all day waiting to risk their lives on a rickety metal contraption that has probably been running since Franklin D. Roosevelt was in office.

Regardless of what people who put on the fair tell you, it's not a day of fun with the Brady

Bunch. I remember being 5 years old, and my father nearly having a stroke in an attempt to win my sister and me a stuffed Spuds McKenzie dog.

"Son of a motherloving duck!" he kept saying, only in Spanish, so that the people who passed by would still think he was a nut, but not be offended by any language he used. We never got the damn dog.

I don't like rides.

I don't like games.

And I especially don't like children. In fact, I tend to hate most people in general.

So it's no secret that I'm not thrilled by the opportunity to spend the afternoon with the people who gave me life but also gave me the compulsive disorder of washing my hands 68 times a day.

And seeing all of the other parents at the fair, smiling even though their little angel just pitched a fit because he couldn't have an invisible dog on a leash and proceeded to wipe his nose on one of the display quilts at the arts and crafts gallery, would merely confirm the hell we were all being forced to live.

I suppose the fair isn't all that bad, but its potential is wasted on me.

In the past, it was possible to place all your faith in an overgrown rubber band, a.k.a. bungee jump, while being videotaped.

This was so your family would have Exhibit A for the trial resulting from your untimely death. Call me kooky, but that's re-freakin'-digious.

Whatever happened to the days when old-fashioned family quality time was spent at funerals?

There's usually a lot of food afterward and everyone goes from person to person talking about how much they dislike the person they just talked to, like musical chairs for the hateful. That sounds good, sign me up for that.

If I had to choose between family fun at the fair and sticking bamboo shoots up my nails, I'd go with the least bloody act: the bamboo shoots.

Sure, on the surface the fair looks good with the fried food, fast rides and tons of fun with your family, but it all ends up in the same place: the bathroom.

And if there's one piece of advice I can offer that my father offered me, it's this: "Never trust a canny. Those bastards will get you each time."

Only I can't say it in Spanish.

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"The People"

FEATURES



Right: Alyssa Hubanks, 6, bounces on the "Power Jump" trampoline on Sept 29 at the Kern County Fair.

Kids of all ages enjoy the rides and attractions which the fair offers.

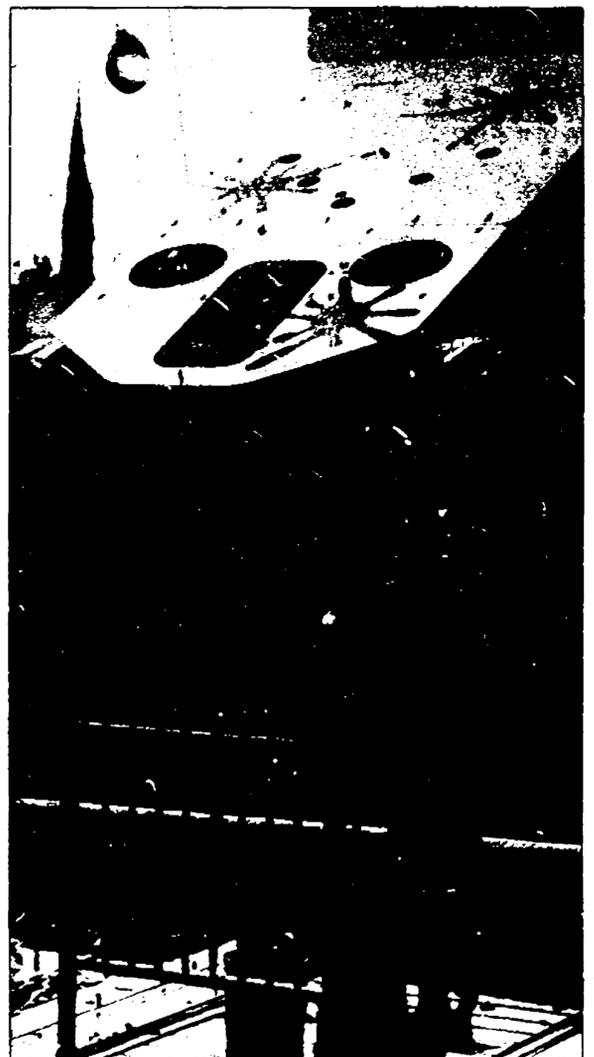
The fair ends its run in Bakersfield on Sunday.

SEAN LEWIS / THE RIP



JENNIFER HUBBELL / THE RIP

Kidding Around at the Kern County Fair



SEAN LEWIS / THE RIP

Grant Frame, 11, launches a water balloon at his opponent at the "Water Wars" game at the fair.

Above: Jessie Miller checks out "Trashosaurus" with her daughter Melanie Miller, 3, and friend Jerome Dizon, 6.

The friendly creature is made up of items that often are thrown away to demonstrate to children how the process of recycling works.

Right: Rocky Radcliff, 5, scales the rock climbing wall during the fair.



SEAN LEWIS / THE RIP

THE RENEGADE RIP

www.therip.com

Vol. 73 • No. 14

Bakersfield College

October 18, 2002

'the Meaning of Courage'

Rudy Giuliani surprises conference crowd with unexpected appearance.

By AMBER GARCIA
Rip staff writer

He made it after all. To the surprise of many in the audience, former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani walked across the stage in the main tent at the end of the 18th annual Bakersfield Business Conference to a standing ovation from an explosive audience that cheered, whistled and waved American flags.

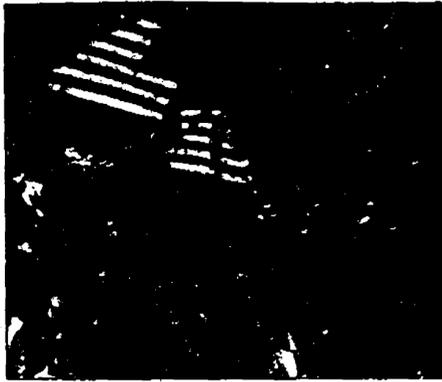
But it was no easy task getting him there.

Giuliani was flown "on a rocket" to the Oct. 12 conference at California State University, Bakersfield, joked George Martin, managing partner of the legal firm Borton, Petri & Conron LLP, which put on the event. He said Giuliani actually took a very fast private jet at the last minute, under police escort, directly to Meadows Field from a memorial for New York City firefighters at Madison Square Garden.

After lunch was served at about 1 p.m., Martin told the members of the press in the media tent that Giuliani was coming, but asked them not to inform the attendees that Giuliani might attend in person because it wasn't certain whether he would make it.

"What we didn't want was to put people on a roller coaster," Martin said during an interview after the conference. "This wasn't a ploy. ... It would have been grossly unfair for me to walk out there and say, 'You know, I think Rudy Giuliani is coming.'"

See GIULIANI, Page 2



Left: Attendees of the Bakersfield Business Conference exhibit their patriotism as former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani walks onstage Oct. 12 at the event at California State University, Bakersfield.

Below: Giuliani, termed "America's mayor," speaks about the spirit of the nation during the conference.

CHRIS KEELER / THE RIP



JOHN VODOPLA / THE RIP

Quotable Moments

"Mayor Giuliani has to be with those firefighters, but he will be here at 5, interactive with us. Do not leave before that because you're going to be disappointed. It's going to be a very, very special day."

— George Martin, during his remarks at the beginning of the conference

...

"I'm very, very glad I was able to make it because this was a difficult day after over a year now of quite a few difficult days, and it really is wonderful to walk out here and see you, with all the American flags, your tremendous strength and enthusiasm for this country."

— Rudy Giuliani

...

"If America's become a milk cow with 280 million tits, we'll need all the bag balm we can get."

— Alan Simpson, on why he kept bovine bag balm on his desk while he was in Congress

...

"He wrote me an e-mail shortly before he died, on my birthday, that said, 'Happy Birthday to the best son in the world, my confidante, my adviser, my support, my friend.'"

That is the most valuable piece of paper that I own. I would crumple up and throw away my diploma from Yale Law School in a second compared to keeping that letter from my father."

— Ben Stein, on his love for his father and the importance of family

...

"The great discussion of what's the difference between Al Gore and Osama bin Laden: bin Laden is wanted."

— Mark Russell

Throng of attendees scramble to see 'America's mayor'

By LORENZO MIRANDA
Rip staff writer

Making as grand of an entrance that one can make, former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani seemed to appear out of thin air at the Bakersfield Business Conference.

"I figured that someone charted a jet stream and flew him in," said F.C.

Waldron, a retiree at the conference.

"It was a heck of a surprise no doubt about that," said Chris Brown, a supply manager.

Giuliani was able to give his speech at the conference in person after it was publicly announced that he would be appearing via satellite.

But he evidently had plans elsewhere in California, that weekend.

After appearing at the conference, he later appeared at three Bill Simon fund-raisers in San Jose, San Diego and Fresno that weekend, according to the Los Angeles Times.

He also appeared in San Francisco and Pasadena to promote his book, "Leadership," the Times reported.

"When he showed, everyone was thrilled and happy about it, includ-

ing me," said Edith Scott, a homemaker.

Toward the end of the day, some who attended made their way to the exits. Tickets for the event cost up to \$350 per person.

"A lot of (people) just took off. I saw them walking out," said Brown.

When it was announced that Giuliani would actually speak in per-

son following singer Lee Greenwood's presentation, numerous people could be seen running back across the conference grounds at California State University, Bakersfield.

"We were sitting out here and once he came up on the screen a bunch of people were running"

See REACTION, Page 2

Richard Picciotto describes his harrowing escape from the rubble of the World Trade Center's north tower. He was one of the last firefighters to make it out of the center alive.

JOHN VODOPLA / THE RIP



N.Y. firefighter recalls near-death experience during Sept. 11 rescue

By AMBER GARCIA
Rip staff writer

He was inside the World Trade Center as the Twin Towers started to collapse during the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11.

He was trying to help the people still in the building and realized that he couldn't save them all, when the floor beneath him collapsed, throwing him into darkness.

It was silent. It was still. It was black. He thought he was dead. If you can picture this, you have a good idea of the experiences of Richard Picciotto, a battalion commander with the Fire Department of New York.

As one of the surprise guests at the annual Bakersfield Business Conference, Picciotto gave an emotional speech detailing his experiences on Sept. 11. He told the patriotically charged audience about working the Upper West Side of Manhattan when he turned on the television to see the tragedy beginning to unfold.

"Immediately, it brought back to me the 1993 World Trade Center bombing," Picciotto said. "I was one of the first to arrive (then) and I was in charge of the evacuation of the north tower, so I knew that tower well. I knew that each building only had"

See FIREFIGHTER, Page 2

GIULIANI: 'We have to focus on ending global terrorism'

Continued from Page 1
going to be here, he's on his way, and then have him not make it. It would have destroyed the feeling in that tent."

Martin also said he does not expect to get complaints from those attendees who left the event early, assuming Giuliani would not be there in person.

"They shouldn't be (angry)," Martin said. "I warned them about 10 times during the day. 'Do not leave before five o'clock.' We warned them, don't leave."

Those who did stay got a taste of Giuliani's serious side, which many may have seen on television during the 9/11 crisis, as well as a more playful one.

The first words he spoke introducing himself were in a voice of a stereotypical Italian mobster from New York.

"How many of you watch 'The Sopranos'?" You can admit it," Giuliani said. "I want you to pay attention to one thing, because it's the part of the show that I feel the most pride in. ... Please notice that Tony Soprano drives to New Jersey. I believe I had a role in getting them all there."

Giuliani said despite the fact it had been a difficult day for him to reflect on all of the firefighters who lost their lives last year, attending the conference was wonderful.

"I'm very, very glad I was able to make it ... it really is wonderful to walk out here and see you, with all the American flags, your tremendous strength and enthusiasm for this country," Giuliani said.

He said he disagrees with the people who maintain that America is more dangerous now, after the attacks, than before.

"There's a tendency sometimes in America, to see the world as we would like it to be. ... Then we miss, sometimes, the harsh reality of the dangers that we face. So Sept. 11, if it did nothing else, it woke us up. It said to us, 'This is the world we have to face, this is the world we have to deal with,' and just in that alone, you're safer. When you know the danger that you face, you're



Lee Greenwood, Rudy Giuliani and Richard Picciotto sing "God Bless the U.S.A." after Giuliani's speech.

safer than when you don't." Giuliani said he supports President Bush's decisions to deal with Iraq, and that Bush was his new hero.

"We have to focus on ending global terrorism. We have to end Saddam Hussein's regime in Iraq. ... And if we've learned any lesson at all from history, the lesson that we've learned is that if you stand up to a dictator, an earlier stage, you save more lives than if you wait and appease."

During his speech, he spoke of the need for learning the true meaning of courage,

which he learned from his father on his father's death bed. He said courage was the absence of fear, but the management of it.

"We have to learn the meaning of courage. ... If you go into a battle or if you go into a fire and you don't feel fear, that isn't courage, that's insanity. To be courageous you have to feel fear, you have to know you're in danger. Then you have to manage your fear in order to overcome the thing that is causing it."

He also spoke of the need to be prepared for whatever crisis may happen and that that is the key to handling it.

"Our governments, federal, state and local, have to ... I call it prepare relentlessly. On Sept. 11, when I first realized how horrible this attack was, my first reaction was that we were in uncharted territory. ... We had not anticipated airplanes being used as missiles to crash into our buildings. ... Think about what the worst thing that could happen is and be ready for it. Hopefully, God willing, it won't happen. But if you're prepared for it, if it does happen, you'll be able to save more lives."

He also said everyone has to be more conscious of security, and be willing to surrender some privacy in order to be safe. He told the audience of a security check he experienced while attending the Super Bowl.

"I was told my car would be searched and got a little annoyed," Giuliani said. "I said, 'Don't they trust me?' And then I saw a van over on the side of the road being searched. I looked closer and I couldn't believe my eyes. The person being searched going into the Super Bowl was Joe Montana. So I got out and volunteered to be searched. If Joe Montana can be searched going in, I mean they should just give him the Super Bowl, I can be searched and you can be searched."

Giuliani said the best way to get through any difficult time is with humor, and that people always have to think optimistically.

He told a story of the president visiting the World Trade Center shortly after the attacks and talking to the workers there.

When he and the president left, there were about 20,000 people on the streets waving flags and holding signs saying "Mr. President, we love you."

"(They were) blowing him kisses, trying to wave to him and tell him how much they loved and supported him," Giuliani said. "I said (to myself), 'You got to have humor and the president is a regular guy so I won't get in trouble (with him) if I do this.' I said 'Mr. President, I don't know how to tell you this, but none of these people voted for you.'"

The event ended with Giuliani being joined onstage by New York fire battalion commander Richard Picciotto and special guest country singer Lee Greenwood, the "Three Tenors" as Martin called them, to perform "God Bless the U.S.A."

The audience sang along as Giuliani and Picciotto reached into the audience to receive flags to wave. The crowd roared as all the men hugged each other, including Martin.

"We gambled that he would make it, and he did," Martin said in the interview. "It was a very special moment in the crowd. ... We've had some enormous endings. This is right up there with them."

REACTION: 'As soon as he showed up, we weren't going anywhere'

Continued from Page 1
outside," said David Chance, a construction worker.

Some, like Katherine Race, lucked out. Arriving in town Saturday for the conference, Race believed Giuliani was going to be there regardless.

"I didn't hear all that other hype," she said. "I didn't know all that other stuff was going on."

Debbie Mann suspected something was up. "I had a feeling he was coming since they moved his time," said Mann, a clerical worker at CSUB. "I was betting that he

would be here." While some considered themselves lucky to catch the last-minute appearance, others

wasn't going to be here. "I thought it was a neat way to do it. It kind of brought a close to the end. It made me a lot more interested."

Those who stuck around said those that left early only had themselves to blame.

"They shouldn't have left. If they were willing to invest the price of (this event), then they shouldn't have left. You shouldn't miss anything at this price," said Maxine Palacios.

FIREFIGHTER: 'They say right before you're gonna die, your whole life flashes before you'

Continued from Page 1
three stairways, but also each building had 99 elevators, and I knew people were gonna use the three stairways to get down. I called the dispatch and told them I wanted to be there."

By the time Picciotto arrived, the plane had hit the second tower. He described the scene as "horrendous," and talked about the people who were trapped in the building and also those jumping from the windows. He said he and his crew reported to the north tower and started making their way slowly up the three stairways while wearing 60 pounds of equipment, hoping to contain the fire.

"I knew, even on the way down, that we weren't going to put that fire out," Picciotto said. "It was too big, there was too much fuel. What I was hoping was that we could contain it, and maybe one of the stairwells would be intact so we could get to the people above. ... We knew it was a grave situation."

Picciotto said that as they ascended the stairs, other people were coming down. He had made it to the

third or fourth floor when the building started to shake with tremendous force.

"Something was coming down, something was crashing through and I didn't know what it was," Picciotto said. "It's coming down real loud, it's coming down quick. I could hear the noise, I could feel it. It's coming down and then it passes right through my body. We all froze, and we could hear that noise pass right through us. And then, all of a sudden, deathly silence."

Picciotto said no one knew what had caused the loud noise and sudden silence. It turned out to be the collapse of the south tower. He said he tried to call on his radio to find out what was going on, and got no response until suddenly he was signaled that the south tower had collapsed. He said he had to decide what they should do next.

"We were frozen and silent," Picciotto said. "We were climbing the stairway. What do we do? They're looking at me. They're gonna do anything I tell them to do. That's the way the Fire Department

works. The leadership structure, the command structure, they have faith in their leaders because we come up through the ranks. We have respect and their confidence and they know that I'll protect them. That's my job, to protect them."

Picciotto said he believed that a bomb in the north tower had exploded, and was forced to make the difficult decision in abandoning the people still trapped in the upper part of the tower, thinking most of them were already dead.

"This is not something in (firefighters') vocabulary, to retreat. But I had to look after their interests, I had to get them out of there."

Picciotto said he ordered all of his crew members to drop their tools and begin evacuating. All of the stairways except the B stairway were clogged with debris from the collapse of the south tower. With only one 42-inch-wide stairway, they began making their way down.

On the 12th floor, he encountered an elevator with 40 to 50 people just sitting in it. Picciotto attempted to get them moving toward the clear stair-



Richard Picciotto

way, and realized some were people who used wheelchairs, crutches or canes, being aided by other people who didn't know where to go.

He said he forced the helpers, who did not want to leave the others, to evacuate first and then went down the stairway with the rest of the group slowly.

Picciotto said when they got to the sixth floor, the floor started to collapse. Picciotto said that in that moment, all of the things that were important to him ran through his mind. He thought he was going to die.

"A million things ran through my head," he said. "They say right before you're gonna die, your whole life flashes before you. I know what

flashed in front of me: My wife, my kids, the things that are most important, my family. And I prayed. I prayed, 'Please God, make it quick. I made a real quick peace with myself. I didn't want to die, but I wasn't afraid to die at that point, I just wanted to go fast.'"

Picciotto said while he was praying, the noise, shaking, rattling, winds and compression of the building were adding up to a great weight. He said the floor suddenly disintegrated beneath him and he tumbled down into darkness.

"I thought I was dead," he said. "I thought, I guess this is it ... but then I checked my body, and think, 'Maybe I'm not dead.' I called out and there were other people there. I fell into this void, this air pocket. ... We were in this air pocket and we were alive."

He said he and the more than a dozen other people trapped with him called for help for several hours until someone finally heard them.

"I told him, 'We're here, we're alive, come get us. We're in the north tower on the stairway.' The guy I talked to said, 'There is no north tower.'"

Picciotto said they lay there in complete darkness for an hour, until small shafts of light started shining through because the dust began to

settle, giving them a limited view.

"When I climbed up, I'm in the middle of this rubble, this devastation," he said.

Eventually the people in that air pocket were evacuated and taken for medical care. Picciotto said despite some minor injuries, he was in relatively good shape. He said he now gets asked what he has learned from the experience.

"I learned a lot of things," he said. "One of the most important things I learned is that life is precious. Enjoy it, enjoy your family, and enjoy your friends. I also learned what a great country this is. The support, the generosity of you people to New York is overwhelming. And I just want to thank you, because that support was so overwhelming."

The audience stood and cheered when he spoke of his pride for America, especially the way people came together during a major crisis.

"This country can be so united, we are a great country. ... We're Americans. We have to stay together. We have to play strong as Americans, we can't stop until those terrorists have been eliminated. There are people out there who want to destroy this country. We have to defend this country, and the people. ... Thank God for America. I'm proud to be an American."

'Real power comes from within'

John Powers moves up to the big tent to talk about personal success.

By DEMETHRASH BLACKMON
Sports Editor

Once a speaker in the business tent, John Powers made his way to the main stage for the 18th edition of the Bakersfield Business Conference.

Right away, the audience discovered the humor he projected in the face of life's more serious situations.

"We would all like to live forever," Powers said. "I know I'd like to be the last man on Earth, just to see if all of those women were telling the truth."

Using a passionate delivery, the motivational speaker talked about the value of being in control of oneself and the importance of keeping a passion for life.

Passion, Powers explained, opens the mind to possibilities.

"The reality is there has never been anyone like you before and there will never be again. Each of us is a once in a universe happening."

Writer and performer of the one-man show, "Scissors, Paper, Rock" and producer of the

musical comedy, "Do Black Patent Leather Shoes Really Reflect Up?," Powers explained how the game of life is much more than just wins and losses.

"We confuse success and failure with winning and losing. They have nothing to do with one another," Powers said.

"Success is when you are striving toward your goal. Failure is when you quit. You control that ... losing and learning to go out and live again is the only kind of winning that truly matters."

Powers said when he was young, he and his brother would get candy bars and sit with his grandfather on the porch in the front of the house and talk about the wonderful things they were going to do in life.

"Every time we sat down, my grandfather would say the world from here, and I believed he could."

He said as his brother and he talked, his grandfather, being the wise teacher he was, would just listen.

Before his father passed away a few years ago, Powers said his father described the true meaning of power to him.

"Real power is spiritual. Real power comes from within," Powers said. "My dad often said, 'No one can make me happy, no one can make me mad, no one can make me anything. Until I first give them the power to do it.'"

"Each of us is a once in a universe happening."

— John Powers, motivational speaker

Quotable Moments

"You can be a good friend, and you can show the love to the people you love and your family, and redeem their lives with your love. That is the one redemptive investment that we can all make that never fails. Love never fails."

"... We all want good things to happen to the ones we love, we all pray to God that good things will happen to the ones we love, but here on earth, God's work is our work."

— Ben Stein

"Success is when you are striving toward your goal. Failure is when you quit. You control that."

— John Powers

"I believe football combines two of the most dubious features of American politics: violence punctuated by committee meetings, called a huddle."

— George Will

"My first conclusion was the New York press corps is more dangerous than the East River."

— Rudy Giuliani, on why some police officers will not hesitate to rescue someone from the East River, but are terrified during press conferences

"What do you get when you drive very slowly across the campus of USC in a red BMW convertible? A diploma."

— Ben Stein, who said he was told that joke by someone who went to UCLA

"It is easier to start wars than to end them. Wars seldom turn out the way they were planned."

— F.W. de Klerk



John Powers, motivational speaker, becomes passionate during his talk.

Love may be the best investment

Economist Ben Stein tells crowd that family love yields more than money.

By AMBER GARCIA
Rip staff writer

Believe it or not, there's a lot more to Ben Stein than just sarcasm spouted forth by a monotone voice.

For those who attended the Annual Bakersfield Business Conference and only know Stein as the host of the quiz show "Win Ben Stein's Money," or as the nasal-toned, lifeless teacher in the film "Ferris Bueller's Day Off," it may have come as a surprise to hear him expertly speak of the economy and family values.

But he did, and along the way managed to still get some laughs out of the audience.

What many of the attendees may not have known is that Stein is the son of Herbert Stein, an economist and writer. Like his father, Stein is also a notable economist, and spoke to the audience about the country's present economic situation.

"Here's what's going on in the economy in a nutshell," Stein said. "We are either just in or just out of a small recession, and it's a very unusual recession because it hardly raised unemployment at all. ... So for large segments of the economy there was no recession at all, and in a few segments of the economy ... it was a catastrophe."

Stein said some of the reasons for this was because the manufacturers are now a small part of the economy, the telecommunications sector collapsed, WorldCom is bankrupt, and AT&T, as well as America Online, are barely alive.

He said he is hopeful the economy will start to build up again.

"The stock crisis, I think, has reached its bottom. It won't be a smooth upturn from now on, but in a rocky way they're going to make their way back."

He also argued against several negative perceptions of America.

"This is a country which is better to its own people than any other country in the whole world, than any other country has ever been in history," he said. "When I watch the pictures on TV of the demonstrators in London saying what a big bully America is, I keep thinking, 'Where would you have been if this big bully hadn't come along and helped you in 1941? When I see the pictures of those demonstrating in



JOHN VODOPIJA / THE RIP

Noted personality Ben Stein talks about family during the business conference.



CHRIS KEELER / THE RIP

Don't try this in class

Naomi Judd's notes are easily seen written on her left hand while she speaks to the crowd of 9,000 attendees of the Bakersfield Business Conference on Oct. 12.

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Thank You,
George F. Martin,
Borina, Pribani & Connor, LLP,
and Cynthia Pofford Communications
for the excellent audio access to the 2002 Bakersfield Business Conference
—from the Renegade Rip Staff

See more scenes from the 18th annual Bakersfield Business Conference at **www.therip.com**

BAKERSFIELD BUSINESS CONFERENCE

Quotable Moments

"The media is not interested in clarity. They're interested in conflict, confusion and controversies. They are not interested in clarity, that is not how they make their bucks. They are only interested in making profits. ... The First Amendment belongs to you and me and not to corporate structures."

— Alan Simpson

"If it wasn't for F.W. de Klerk, I'd be the only liberal here."

— Mark Russell

"They were not only talking, but they were kind of like hugging each other. ... And at one point, the guy, in a burst of affection, grabbed the president and he disappeared in the guy's arms. And a Secret Service agent looked at me, pointed his finger right in my face, and he said to me, 'If this guy kills the president, you're finished.'"

— Rudy Giuliani, explaining Bush's WTC visit with a construction worker

How to Keep it Simple

Terry Bradshaw tells audience about life, success, family and why you should never marry a lawyer.

By DEMETHRASH BLACKMON Sports Editor

Throughout his Hall of Fame career, Pittsburgh Steeler quarterback Terry Bradshaw mastered the art of making the best out of the worst possible situations. "I made my living by putting my hands on another man's butt," Bradshaw exclaimed to the sea of early morning attendees at the 18th annual Bakersfield Business Conference. "Before you are through today and head off to watch one of your favorite college football teams, everybody pair up. Let's do it right now. Flex those knees, flex those hands down there, but, but!"

"My mother told me, 'Baby, I warned you, if you marry outside the family, you're gonna have problems.'"

— Terry Bradshaw

Under the enormous, American flag-covered tent at California State University, Bakersfield, Bradshaw, the first speaker of the conference, kept the audience in stitches with his humble approach to everyday life while expressing the ideas and values he learned growing up.

"It's awfully early to be up here inspiring all you people," he said. Before taking the stage, a video montage of Bradshaw's career highlights as a Steeler was broadcast on countless screens all over the conference grounds.

Staying true to his Louisiana heritage, the Creedence Clearwater Revival classic "Born on the Bayou" accompanied the montage.

As an added bonus, one of Bradshaw's broadcast colleagues

from Fox Sports also made an appearance. James Brown, who is the host of "Fox NFL Sunday," took the stage to a thunderous ovation, as Bradshaw jokingly introduced him as "his d'iver."

"The see is going crazy, J.B.," Bradshaw yelled over the cheers. "Big 'ol Cadillac you drove me over here in."

Bradshaw said he has learned to be very humble with the gifts and accolades he has received during his life. He said his mother taught him at an early age about the importance of family as a way to overcome

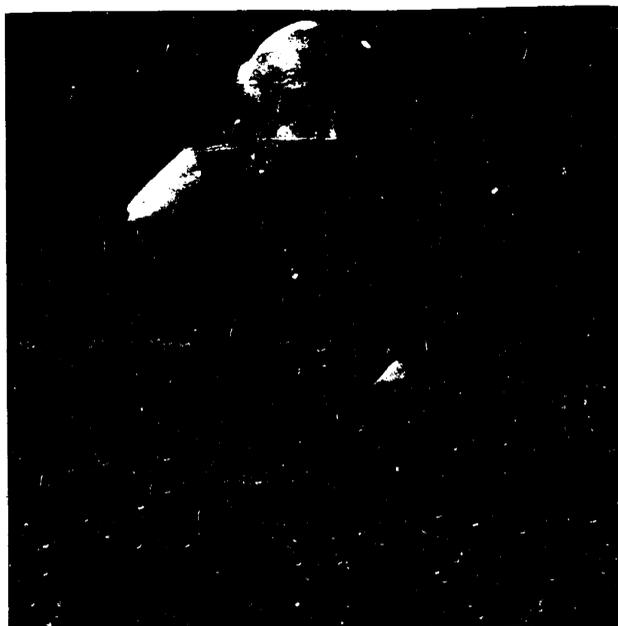
whatever life throws at you, including a divorce.

"They told me to come out here and talk about fame, adversity, sacrifice, competition and that's just talking about my marriages," he said. "My mother told me, 'Baby, I warned you, if you marry outside the family, you're gonna have problems.'"

As Bradshaw attempted to become a bit more serious, he wanted everyone to realize that true success only comes when you can turn around and thank someone else.

In the world of business, like in the world of sports, there will be problems but it is how people approach those problems which determine if they become bigger ones.

The most effective way to solve those problems, according to Bradshaw, is to "keep it simple, which just happens to be the



John Vodorlia / The Rip NFL Hall of Famer and Fox Sports broadcaster, Terry Bradshaw addresses the Bakersfield crowd at the business conference on Oct. 12.

title of his new book, which he plugged whenever possible.

"New book I got coming out this week, very in-depth, very technical reading," Bradshaw said sarcastically as he counted his fingers, "It debuted No. 21 on the best seller list. Fifteen more spots and I'm No. 1!"

Tom Landry, who was the coach of the Dallas Cowboys during Bradshaw's playing career in the 1970s, was confronted with the problem of his quarterback not wanting to touch his center when the ball was snapped.

"God didn't intend man to make his living placing his hands on another man's butt," Bradshaw said.

Landry came up with the simplest solution he could think of at the time — the shotgun formation. This is when the quarterback is about 3 to 5 yards behind the center when the ball is snapped. This formation is used extensively in the NFL today as well as college and high school.

Bradshaw also emphasized that people need to thank others, since no one accomplishes much without the help of others.

"Ladies and gentlemen, we truly accomplish nothing if we don't say thank you to somebody. When I think about Pittsburgh, the only things that were cared about was that we were winning championships,

but I just don't see here in Bakersfield a lot of Steeler fans," Bradshaw said as the Steeler fans in the audience started to cheer. "All those that just got out of the old halfway house, huh?"

According to Bradshaw, the state of the world has become very serious and troubling. However, it is equally important to take time out to hug your kids, call your parents, enjoy yourself, have fun and just laugh once in a while.

"You gotta be careful when you marry a lawyer. I should have known I was in trouble because the minute we got back from the honeymoon, she talked me into a divorce."

BAKERSFIELD BUSINESS CONFERENCE

Russell razzes Washington bigwigs

Political satirist takes on Dubya, Bill and Hillary in political piano performance.

By AMBER GARCIA Rip staff writer

Mark Russell didn't waste any time insulting Bakersfield when he walked onstage.

"I got up today to read a copy of your local newspaper, *The Bakersfield Californian*," he said Oct. 12 at the Bakersfield Business Conference. "I read today's issue of *The Bakersfield Californian* cover to cover. It was the most riveting minute-and-a-half I've ever spent."

He also performed "O Bakersfield" to the tune of "O Christmas Tree" on the piano, with lyrics such as "The whole town fits inside a tent / George Martin is the government / Nine thousand here and I would bet / That's all the votes Bill Simon gets."

But instead of being offended, the audience roared with laughter. Russell was off to an insubling but entertaining start.

Bakersfield wasn't his only target, however. The political satirist poked fun at many people and told a story of President Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney eating at a restaurant.

"The waitress said to Bush, 'What will you have?' He said, 'I'll have a quickie.' She said, 'A what?' He said, 'A quickie.' She said, 'That's disgusting. I expected something like that from Bill Clinton, but not from you.' She walks away in anger, whereupon Cheney says to Bush, 'That's quiche.'"

The president seemed to be a favorite topic for Russell, as he told the audience that thank-

fully the Constitution was prepared for what would happen in Florida during the last presidential election.

"In the event that a presidential election is hopelessly deadlocked in one state," Russell said in a voice imitating a founding father, "And one of the candidate's brother is the governor of that state, the president will be chosen by the governor's another."

He even told the audience of what would happen if the president was a Democrat.

"And the beauty of our system is, if George W. Bush was a Democrat, the Republicans would think he was dumb."

And just because Bill Clinton is no longer in office does not mean he went unscathed. Russell discussed the various pardons made by Clinton in the last hours of his term, including billionaire Mark Rich, whose wife, Denise Rich, gave \$1.3 million to the Democratic Party.

"And that brought up the question of quid pro quo, was something expected in return for the money with pro quo, which is Latin for, 'Holy crap, what a coincidence!'"

Russell also told the audience about New York's reaction to Hillary Clinton's decision to run for Senate.

"In New York, they had bumper stickers that said, 'Run, Hillary, run!' And they were on the front bumper."

He also spoke of the recent Enron scandal.

"I don't care how innocent you are," he said. "If you are a white guy in a suit with your hands



Chris Keeler / The Rip Political satirist Mark Russell pokes fun at politicians past and present during his presentation Oct. 12 at the Bakersfield Business Conference.

in the air taking the Fifth Amendment, you're gonna look as innocent as Tony Soprano, for God's sake."

Another topic he spoke of is recent security measures after Sept. 11.

"What nobody likes to talk about is that most the people in the airport who fit the profile of a terrorist are the security people themselves."

Quotable Moments

"I told him, 'We're here, we're alive, come get us. We're here in the north tower on the stairway.' The guy I talked to said, 'There is no north tower.'"

— Richard Picciotto, FDNY battalion commander

"Borton, Petrini & Conron law partners ... and I don't know these guys well. I haven't met any of them. I'm not much for attorneys, but that's the way it is. I don't think any of these guys alive, so I can say that, right?"

— Terry Bradshaw

"In the year 2050, 2060, there will be millions of Americans 100 years or older. You could make a city, a very quiet city. ... America's first city without sexually transmitted diseases, depending on what pill Bob Dole's selling at that point."

— George Will, on the nation's future life expectancy

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BAKERSFIELD BUSINESS CONFERENCE

Quotable Moments

"For all you ladies out there ... here's a little tidbit for you. Every quarterback in the National Football League who will not put his hands on another man's butt is a Catholic. A Baptist will root, we get on down. A Catholic won't touch."
— Terry Bradshaw

"It's an interesting thing that so many of the people who say how great it is that we export jobs are professors who can't lose their jobs."
— Ben Stein

"I think the United Nations is a wonderful forum in which to discuss issues. Period."
— Jeane Kirkpatrick, on why the U.N. is not good at fighting wars

Terrorists forgot to ask 'But then what?'

By DEMETHRASH BLACKMON Sports Editor

Pulitzer Prize winner George Will insists that this is a great time for Americans to be cheerful about their country.

As the nation grows and becomes more of an influence on other countries, Will said Americans have become even more of a target for extremists.

However, those responsible for the terrorist attacks on the United States failed to answer a fundamental question.

"The people who attacked us made two mistakes. First they didn't realize we were a country capable of producing Terry Bradshaws," Will said to an eruption of laughter. "Also they failed to ask themselves the question, 'But then what?'"

Comparing today's government with that during World War II, he explained the United States has been more efficient in countering recent attacks, something the terrorists didn't realize.

Will made his comments during the Oct. 12 Bakersfield Business Conference at California State University, Bakersfield.

Will explained that although the country is divided as far as party affiliation is concerned, the division is more of an issue of sensibility rather than over the basic principles of what the American government does. "In 1972, we were still fighting a ground war of attrition on the mainland of Asia with a conscript army for dual party purposes. Those were bitter days," Will said. "In the year

2000, George Bush and Al Gore were arguing about their faintly different plans for delivering a prescription drug entitlement under Medicare. That is not ... bitter, it's intensely boring."

Will contended society today is less concerned about race than in the past.

"If you are walking the streets of any American city, ask anyone you stop to name the three most admired Americans, you are apt to get Michael Jordan, Colin Powell and Oprah Winfrey, with Tiger Woods and Condoleezza Rice coming up fast."

He also noted that because more Americans are living longer, the importance of having a sound Social Security program in place is a major issue facing the future of America.

The average life expectancy of an American man is 74 and the average for an American woman is 80.

He recited the story of Ida Mae Fuller, who was the first person to receive a regular monthly Social Security check. She paid a total of \$24 into Social Security before she retired. She lived to be 100 and collected more than \$24,000 in benefits, he said.

Social Security has taken on new importance as the stock market has declined, he said.

"The majority of American households today are participants in the equities market," he said. "All told, \$8 trillion in equity value has disappeared. That is more than the combined gross national products of France, Britain, Italy, and India. That



JOHN VODOPIJA / THE RIP
George Will points out how good Americans have it compared to just a few years ago.

is not chopped liver." Will explained that the economy is still growing and creating jobs, although the technology sector may have outgrown its limits. He said Priceline.com, a virtual travel agency, at one point had a bidding market capitalization larger than the entire American air-

line industry. "It is very difficult to derail the productivity of the American people."

Some major technology corporations operate without ever making a profit, he said.

At age 5 in his hometown of Champaign, Ill., Will said he sold

lemonade on the sidewalk and made more money than Amazon.com has really made yet.

Making a reference to the technology industry, Will recited a quote from economist Herb Stein in regard to the law of bubbles.

"When you are in the hole, quit digging," he said.

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Sounding off

Simpson blasts Congress, media and decline in moral values.

By DEMETHRASH BLACKMON Sports Editor

Working in the United States government is serious business.

However, former U.S. Sen. Alan Simpson has discovered a way to mix humor with government.

"Simpson, R-Wyo., has stood out as both a no-nonsense participant in the U.S. Armed Forces and a gifted student of law, although maybe not at the top of his class.

"At no point in my academic career did I ever graduate cum laude," he said during the Bakersfield Business Conference. "I graduated thank the laude."

The Cody, Wyo., native said that once when he was walking around his home town, a gentleman approached him.

"Anybody ever tell you that you look kind of like Al Simpson?" the man asked. "I said, 'Yeah they do,' and he said, 'Makes you kind of mad, don't it?'"

According to Simpson, the state of

the world today has become stressful and frustrating for some people in this country.

Television and sitcoms are still an issue when it comes to making the connection between common knowledge and fantasy, he said. Consequently, declining morals and values may begin to set in.

"Now you get to come home from school and watch the soaps, consisting of the horniest people in America," he said, "... and sitcoms, by the metric ton, portraying the dumbest parents and the most smartass kids raining sarcasm."

Like the entertainment industry, the media has also become swayed by the lure of monetary gains.

"The media is not interested in clarity. They're interested in conflict, confusion and controversies. They are not interested in clarity, that is not how they make their bucks. They are all in it to make profits," he said.

"The First Amendment belongs to you and me and not corporate structures."



JOHN VODOPIJA / THE RIP
Former U.S. Sen. Alan Simpson jokes about the corrupt fund-raising of some politicians.

Complicating today's world is that many people, especially young people, pursue perfection, Simpson said.

"To the young people out there who seek perfection, give it up," he said. "All you'll get is gas, ulcers, heartburn and BO so forget it."

Simpson said the reason he finally left Congress was due to the increasing demands from fund-raising groups to support their agendas.

"I could tell it was time to move on in politics," he said. "I think it was a town meeting in Laramie and I got up and said, 'Two terms for you guys, one in Congress and one in prison.'"

Before he left Washington, he said he bought some bovine bag balm for his desk.

"If America becomes a milk cow with 280 million tits, we'll need all the bag balm we can get," he said as the crowd roared with laughter.

Beltway Boys weigh in

By DEMETHRASH BLACKMON Sports Editor

Political commentators Fred Barnes and Morton Kondracke, together known as The Beltway Boys on the Fox News Channel, laid out a series of hot topics during their appearance at the Bakersfield Business Conference.

Barnes, executive editor of The Weekly Standard in Washington, D.C., states that of all the countries that potentially could be a threat to the United States, Iraq is by far the most capable.

"There's a criteria that singles out Saddam Hussein as an unusually evil leader. One, he has weapons of mass destruction and he's developing more weapons of mass destruction," he said. "Two, he traffics with terrorists ... and three, he is a madman."

Barnes had an interesting take on California politics during the upcoming 2002 election.

"Gray Davis is most likely going to be re-elected," he said. "I think of Gray Davis as Al Gore without the pizzazz."

The Republican Party in California, according to Kondracke, is in even worse shape, especially since Arnold Schwarzenegger may be eyeing the governor's office in 2005.

"All I have to say about 'The Terminator' is it demonstrates the pathetic condition of the Republican Party in the state of California."

'I am ... I'm Not'

Super Diamond performs just like a cubic zirconia.

By AMBER GARCIA Rip staff writer

If there's one thing I enjoy more than Neil Diamond, it's a Neil Diamond tribute band.

Aud of all the Neil Diamond tribute bands I've heard, and I've only heard this one, Super Diamond was the worst.

While watching, I thought, "Neil Diamond is rolling over in his grave right now." And yes, he's actually still alive.

Perhaps I'm being a tad harsh. Super Diamond, the band that performed at the end of the annual Bakersfield Business Conference, was good entertainment if, like me, you like to heckle performers from the crowd. Because really, that's what bands like Super Diamond set themselves up to be: Canopy and fun, but also there: to make us laugh and talk our grandmothers into throwing their panties onstage (and hopefully they'll take them off first).

I'm not so sure if lead singer Randy Cordeiro, "The Surreal Neil," quite lived up to the expectation of performing like the "Real Neil."

The event went from, "Oh my God, it's really Rudy Giuliani!" to "Hey, that's not Neil Diamond!"

Those who said his voice sounds exactly like Neil Diamond had a flaky argument, since not even Neil Diamond sounds like the "real" Neil Diamond anymore. And why couldn't Borton, Petrin, and Conron, the legal firm that puts on the big shindig, just actually get Neil Diamond to perform? What, is he too busy singing commercial jingles in some Marion Hotel lobby?

The event went from, "Oh my God, it's really Rudy Giuliani!" to "Hey, that's not Neil Diamond!" (But if you are far away and can't hear enough, Cordeiro still does not look anything like Neil Diamond.)

All of the members said their last name was Diamond when introducing themselves to the audience, like The Ramones, only dumber. They were dressed in sequined shirts and tight black pants, and seemed to be enjoying themselves a little too much, considering they've dedicated their musical career to a man who is closer to Glen Campbell, the "Rhinstone Cowboy," than the "Man in Black" Johnny Cash. At one point, Cordeiro announced, "We're gonna

do this Bakersfield style," whereupon the bass player put on a pair of sunglasses and imitated fat Elvis. Now if pretending to be Neil Diamond is sick and wrong, pretending to be Elvis, extra pounds especially, was outright blasphemy. I was ready to jump on stage and beat the living non-creativity out of the guy since I actually prefer fat Elvis musically over young Elvis.

And what does fat Elvis have to do with Bakersfield? Was he recently spotted at Pop's Drive-In drinking a jumbo cookies-and-cream milk shake? You'd think people would leave him alone, considering the poor guy croaked on the job and has been dead for years. Performing "Holly Holy" is one thing. Messing with The King is reason for cruel and unusual punishment.

I will make a confession, however. While watching Mr. Entertainment and Co. onstage, I realized there are quite a few Neil Diamond songs besides "Sweet Caroline" and "Cracklin' Rosie" which I know the lyrics to and secretly enjoy. Those songs shall remain nameless, but it's not "Forever in Blue Jeans," I swear. While I wasn't motivated to buy a Super Diamond CD, I was thinking about picking up a Neil Diamond greatest hits collection on my way home from the event.

I do have to give the band some credit, though. Anyone who can look



JOHN VODOPIJA / THE RIP
Randy Cordeiro of Super Diamond looms large on the big screen during the Bakersfield Business Conference.

you straight in the face and say, "I'm a Neil Diamond impersonator" and not break down in tears deserves some recognition. Even though the singer sounded suspiciously more like Marilyn Manson than Neil Diamond at times (death rock Neil Diamond, anyone?), he has fun.

Still, if there's one thing that breaks my heart, and at the same time tickles me, more than seeing someone make a fool out of themselves, it's when they do it and aren't even aware of it.

Especially when they're wearing sequins.

Role of United Nations dominates focus of foreign panel

By LORENZO MIRANDA Rip staff writer

Waiting for United Nations inspectors to search Iraq for weapons of mass destruction is "madness," according to R. James Woolsey, a former director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

"To be blunt about it, I think that way lies madness," he said.

Woolsey went on to say that the number of the U.N. inspectors sent

over to Iraq is about 80, almost the size of the Chico police force.

Such a small group can't hope to find remote hiding places for weapons of mass destruction in a country the size of France, he explained.

With moderator Oliver North, a retired Marine lieutenant colonel and syndicated radio host, standing between them, Jean Kirkpatrick, former ambassador to the United Nations, and Woolsey took turns answering questions about foreign

policy during the Bakersfield Business Conference Oct. 12.

Kirkpatrick, who served as a cabinet member for former President Ronald Reagan from 1981 to 1985, also talked about the limitations the United Nations has in conjunction with dealing with potential threats like Saddam Hussein.

"The U.N. is a wonderful forum in which to discuss issues, but it's not good at fighting wars and not good at rega-

nizing people to fight wars."

Other areas discussed by the panel included dealing with the security threats within America, the definition of a victory against terrorism, and which countries will be U.S. allies during the war against terrorism.

"Nothing short of victory will carry the day, so victory must be our goal," said Kirkpatrick.

Woolsey, a partner in a Washington, D.C.-based law firm, has served in various capacities in the U.S. gov-

ernment since 1969. He called for a total change of the face of the Middle East, citing that democracy could change the landscape of that area like it has in other places in the world, with growth of democratic nations from about 10 in 1917 to about 120 in the last 85 years.

"We have to take the same attitude toward the Middle East and begin to regard it as something other than our gasoline station," he said.

Quotable Moments

"So Sept. 11, if nothing else, it woke us up. It said to us, 'This is the world we have to face, this is the world we have to deal with,' and just in that alone, you're safer. When you know the dangers that you face, you're safer than when you don't."
— Rudy Giuliani

"It debuted No. 21 on the best seller list. Fifteen more spots and I'm No. 1!"
— Terry Bradshaw, joking about his math ability thanks to his P.E. degree from Louisiana Tech

"I actually find nothing wrong with today's public schools. Why? Because my children are 38 years old. I don't give a damn."
— Mark Russell

"All I have to say about 'The Terminator' is it demonstrates the pathetic condition of the Republican Party in the state of California."
— Morton Kondracke, on Arnold Schwarzenegger's political ambitions

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BAKERSFIELD BUSINESS CONFERENCE

Takin' Care of Business

The Bakersfield Business Conference showcases pyrotechnics, patriotism and even popcorn as 9,000 attendees celebrate the spirit of America under the big tent.

Kevin Briley plays "Amazing Grace" on bagpipes in memory of the victims of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks during the Oct. 12 conference.



CHRIS KEELER / THE RIP

Below: Comesha Polk, right, and Gracie Cepeda, left, work at one of the refreshment tents.



CHRIS KEELER / THE RIP



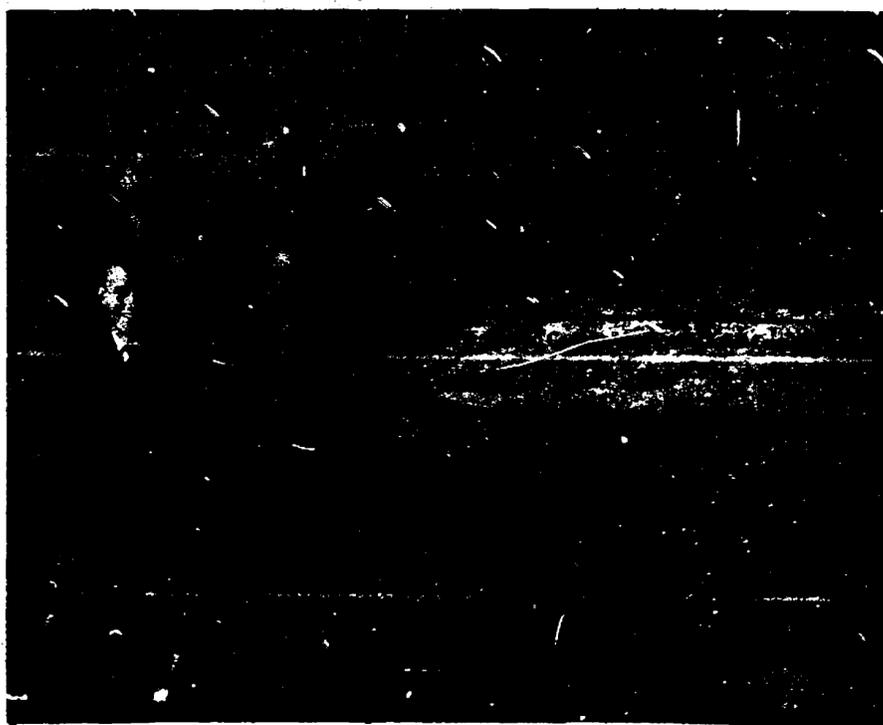
JOHN VODOPIJA / THE RIP

The sky over the Bakersfield Business Conference lights up with a display of fireworks.



CHRIS KEELER / THE RIP

Left: Attendees listen to Fred Barnes, editor of *The Weekly Standard*, under the huge main tent which takes 3,600 hours to construct at CSU, Bakersfield, according to event officials.



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Vol. 73 • No. 15

Bakersfield College

October 25, 2002

'Being a Latina is important to me'

BC president addresses demands for expansion of Chicano studies program.

By ANISSA CANDELARIA
Rip staff writer

Establishing a Chicano Studies Department can't be done by edict, according to Dr. Sandra Serrano, Bakersfield College president.

"I have no authority nor does the Board of Trustees or the chancellor have any authority to establish a department by edict," Serrano said

during a recent interview with *The Rip*.

She discussed the controversy over establishing a Chicano Studies Department as well as her personal feelings about being a Latina president caught in the middle of the issue.

"The students told me because of the fact that I am Latina, they expect more of me," she said as she took a long pause. She explained that she has studied Chicano dance and theater and taken a number of Chicano studies courses. "It is an awkward position when someone feels that

■ IN OPINION: Does BC need a Chicano Studies Department? Page 2

you might be able to do something because of one's culture, ethnic background, gender or relationship.

"Being a Latina is important to me. I know our culture, I appreciate our culture," she continued. "It does make it difficult, but I also know I cannot make promises for which I have no authority, and that first and foremost I have to meet the needs of the students and be a person of integrity."

Serrano emphasized that she has

worked on many Latino-related issues to help Hispanics understand the legal process.

"So has it been difficult to be painted as this monster? Yes," she said.

She recalled advice she received years ago from the president of California State University, Fullerton. The president reminded her not to go into administration unless she was prepared for criticism.

"She said do not even consider

becoming a president of a college unless you are willing to be in the public, be scrutinized by the public, because you're going to be living in a glass house," she said.

While Serrano has been criticized by M.E.Ch.A. for not creating a Chicano Studies Department, she explained that no president or board can establish any new college department. Such actions must come from the faculty, because teachers create classes and must approve new departments.

Contrary to M.E.Ch.A.'s position, Serrano believes the college has



Dr. Sandra Serrano

made progress in evaluating the need for Chicano studies classes. For example, a survey was conducted in See SERRANO, Page 4

Campus ponders new Iraqi conflict

Students, teachers discuss reactions, possible tactics amid escalating tensions.

By LORENZO MIRANDA
Rip staff writer

Bakersfield College student Jenny Ramon has had some disturbing dreams lately about the turmoil between the United States and Iraq.

"I was watching the news the other day and I had a dream that they were bombing," said Ramon, a liberal studies major.

"Yeah, I'm not worried," she added, sarcastically.

However, other BC students say it will never reach the point of war.

"I don't believe it is going to be a war. I don't think so," said Annie Thomas, a nursing major.

"I'm sure there is the possibility out there but something has to be done," said Ryan Robinson, undecided.

What that something is has been a debate for world leaders.

Iraq, under the dictatorship of Saddam Hussein, has been a thorn in the side of the United States ever since the Gulf War. It is a wound that has only gotten deeper with debate over the disarming of a possible nuclear arsenal stockpiled by Saddam. The Bush administration has made it clear that U.N. inspections have been delayed and could be ineffective. The United Nations should be rejected wholeheartedly by Saddam before any war action is considered.

"I think there are two directions," said Jack Brigham, a BC history professor. "We are either doing something unilaterally ourselves plus England, plus other countries, or we are going to go through the United Nations."

Brigham also added the need for the United States to disarm Saddam through the world's collective eyes instead of direct individual action to prevent a heavy anti-American sentiment.

"I wish we had a president like a (Nelson) Mandela, who can step forward and say it is time to take the whole world to a new level," he said. "We realize the problems in the past and this and that but we as a world family need to establish laws and live by them."

Yet the chance of such an action by the United States is not backed up historically, Brigham said. "The U.S. is not willing to live by international treaties. We are not willing to follow international law," said Brigham. "If we were to suddenly follow international law it would be a change in behavior."

BC political science professor Charlie Fivecoat said the United States wants Iraq to disarm but also has begun a series of discussions on the topic.

"I think the Bush administration is adamant about Iraq disassembling but they are using as many diplomatic means at their disposal before any time of military conflict," said Fivecoat.

He said that the White House has adapted its stance in accordance to the sensitivity of the issue.

"This is going to be a delicate balance the U.S. will have to walk," said Fivecoat. "At this point and time I don't think the rest of the world has accepted the immediacy of this threat."

Both professors predict that ultimately the United States may go to war.

"I suspect (Bush) is going to do something outside the scope of the U.N. Regardless, I do expect the U.S. to use its military to do something in Iraq. I assume it would happen between January and March," said Brigham.

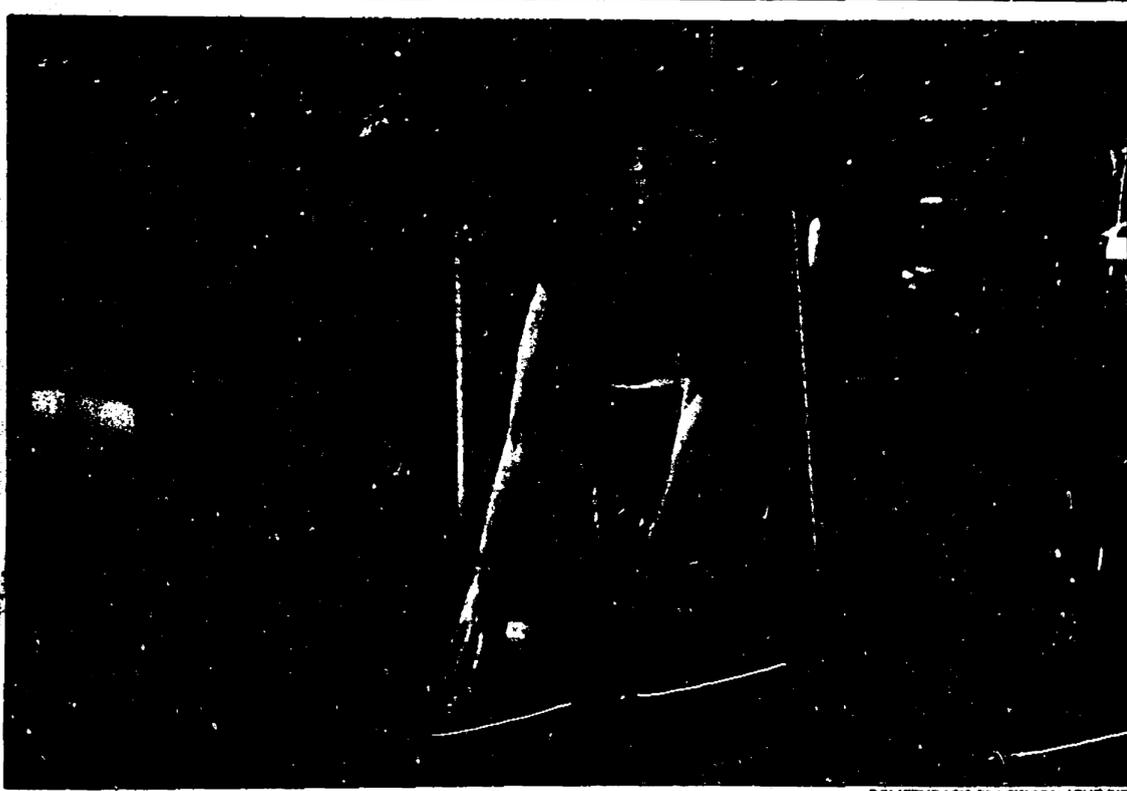
Fivecoat noted that even with the debate, Saddam may not change his stance.

"(Saddam) hasn't complied at this point and I think it is unlikely he will comply now," he said.

Ramon said she believed that the United States should not enter into a war alone.

"I think (the U.S.) should just go with the U.N. and have them all decide on it. Not one country think that they are the boss of everybody," said Ramon.

— Jack Brigham, history professor



Stacy Segeberg stumbles through the first portion of an obstacle course during Tuesday's Homecoming activities.

The road to royalty

Homecoming candidates test their mettle in series of goofy contests.

By JENNIFER HUBBELL
Rip staff writer

It was a dance contest with no music. Yet that didn't slow down the moves in Campus Center.

Deaf Club candidates won the dance contest during Wednesday's Homecoming festivities. Stacy Elizabeth Segeberg and Mario Grijalva of the club acted out a romantic scenario before breaking into a dance with no music in front of a crowd of supporters. The contest was one of many being held during Homecoming week, which ends Saturday with the crowning of the king and queen during the football game at Memorial Stadium.

Of the 12 contests being held, each king and queen contender competes in only eight for points. These activities are not restricted to candidates, as many people think, according to Rafael Galvan, president of the Associated Students of Bakersfield College. They are open to all students, he said.

This year's theme is "Cultures of the World," which fits well with the various clubs competing with king and queen candidates. According to Josiah Faber, vice president of student activities, Homecoming candidates are: Susan



COURTNEY ROSS / THE RIP

Mario Grijalva performs in the dance contest Wednesday.

Gardner and Rick Rios, Business Club; Russell Ige and Charlotte Lingeman, Phi Theta Kappa; Mary Reichelt and David Stenson, independents who represent no club; Reiko Yamada and Brad

Lamb, Latter-day Saints Student Association; Stacy Elizabeth Segeberg and Mario Grijalva, Deaf Club; Tanya Leonzo and Ismael Guzman, M.E.Ch.A.; Tahnee Saia and Mark Paddock, Intersarsity Christian Fellowship; and Jerome Miller and Misty Coston, African-American Student Union.

Other activities scheduled this week for candidates included an obstacle course, football toss, talent show, tricycle joust and interviews. Nursing major Misty Collom said it "shows their good sense of humor" to see candidates participate in these goofy activities.

Many students are not aware that they, too, can participate in the contests and can win prizes. The points system that is used in the election for Homecoming king and queen makes it more of a competition and not so much a popularity contest, Faber said. Students voted for their favorite candidates Wednesday and Thursday in Campus Center.

The crowning of the king and queen will take place during the halftime show at the 7 p.m. Homecoming game on Saturday. There will be a grand marshal and parade of club floats as well. At press time, ASBC officials were unsure if the Renegade Knight mascot would be riding a horse at the game.

Professor swims from Alcatraz to S.F. during event

By MARY LAMKIN
Rip staff writer

This Alcatraz swimmer is no escapee. He is, in fact, Bakersfield College's own Dr. Clark Parsons.

On Sept. 14, Parsons swam from Alcatraz Island to San Francisco, more than 1 1/2 miles, in the Alcatraz Invitational.

Parsons, 62, an instructional technology specialist who works in the

faculty computer lab, decided to try the swim after hearing a woman at a Fort Ord conference discuss the event.

He said he thought, "I can do that. It was kind of a harebrained wild thing to do."

While he had climbed a 20,000-foot mountain, Mount Chimborazo in Ecuador, that was more than 20 years ago.

Parsons said he had never at-

tempted an ocean swim before.

In the two months before his Alcatraz swim, he trained by walking three to four miles a day, six days a week.

He also joined the Bakersfield Swim Club and received some coaching.

He said that during the two-month period, he began swimming one lap and worked up to 40 laps a day.

"I just did the 40 laps in the last

couple of weeks before the race," he said.

Parsons trained in the new Bakersfield College pool in the early mornings three to four times a week.

On the day of the Alcatraz race, some experienced swimmers were concerned about the fog, chilly 60-degree weather and the currents, which were more challenging than anticipated.

See PARSONS, Page 4



Dr. Clark Parsons says the swim competition was a "hare-brained, wild thing to do."

MARY LAMKIN / THE RIP

Does BC need a Chicano Studies Department?

Students at Bakersfield College represent an almost mirror image of the ethnic makeup in Kern County and they need to be represented in the realm of higher education.

This is one of the main reasons why M.E.Ch.A., a club on the campus, has been pursuing a Chicano Studies Department as part of the curriculum at BC.

The organizations and individuals who are pushing for the creation of this new department have done so based on the fact that this county is becoming more diverse ethnically everyday.

According to the United States Census Bureau, Kern County has a population of 661,645. Out of that amount, 38.4 percent are Hispanic. On the BC campus, those numbers are almost similar to the county figures, with 52 percent of the students being minorities and 36 percent being Hispanic.

The fact that in our town California State University, Bakersfield offers a degree in Chicano studies makes the need for a Chicano studies department at BC even more necessary.

Students making the transition from lower division classes to upper division would benefit from more exposure to the Chicano culture in the form of more classes.

However, something that is as important as developing an entirely new department can't be done overnight. According to Ken Meier, vice president of student learning, the creation of a department has minimum wait of two years.

Although he says the process has already started, some believe there is a discrepancy as to when the two year wait actually began. In addition to the wait, the Chicano Studies Department must be approved by the faculty senate, not the administrators of BC.

Moreover, any classes included in the formation of the department would have to be transferable to the four-year university system.

The biggest sticking point in the creation of this new department is the financial resources. According to budget figures, California is going through a severe budget shortfall across the board. This is having a ripple effect on all aspects of state funded issues.

However, as this state and this nation become more and more diverse, the idea of creating new departments as a whole will become more and more problematic, especially if the major reason why they are not being created is due to a lack of funding.

Administrators, students, faculty, and lawmakers will all benefit in the long run with the development of a Chicano Studies Department.

It sends the message to future generations that there will be an avenue for higher education that includes the diversity found in the state's population.

M.E.Ch.A. walkout sparks debate about need for additional classes.



M.E.Ch.A. has sparked a lot of debate lately over whether or not a Chicano Studies Department should be established on campus.

There's always a way to go about getting what you want. M.E.Ch.A. went about it the wrong way and chose to hold a student walkout earlier this semester.

Speakers at this walkout begged Dr. Sandra Serrano, BC president, to sign a document demonstrating her commitment to creating this department.

In fact the president of the college doesn't even make decisions like that. All new classes need approval from the Academic Senate, which is made up of teachers.

Even if enough classes were approved to create a whole department, all of the classes would have to be transferable to a four-year school like CSUB, which already offers a degree in Chicano studies.

Assuming all of the requirements were met, the whole process would take at least two years and not overnight with the wave of Serrano's magic wand, like the members of M.E.Ch.A. would have you believe.

And then there's the money issue, money which the school does not have. BC had to cancel all sorts of English and math classes this semester because of budget cuts. These classes were full of students and had teachers ready to teach.

BC and district administrators have proposed cutting back on the staff here on campus by reducing hours and positions in order to save money.

Sure, we have a new pool, but most of the money for that was donated to us.

Student interest in such a department should be a concern to M.E.Ch.A. At the walkout, only a few students showed up. In a school where 36 percent of the students are Hispanic, only about 100 students showed up, and that's if the figures are rounded up.

That should be a indicator to everyone of how many students would actually sign up for these classes, which would include history and English classes, the same type of classes that were cut in the first place.

Once in a while someone on campus has a good idea. M.E.Ch.A.'s idea to create a Chicano Studies Department is one such idea. But you need to crawl before you can walk.

A Chicano Studies Program would be a better way to go about getting the classes M.E.Ch.A. students want added to the BC catalog.

M.E.Ch.A. needs to stop wasting time with silly protests and start talking to the people who can really get things done, and that's the teachers who will educate them.



CON

John Vodopija PHOTO EDITOR

COPS of the CORN All hell breaks loose in halloween D.A.R.E. maze

By BEN OLIVER Opinion Editor

Abandon all hope ye who enter here. As you make your way up the path through a pumpkin patch where there are many lovely dangling paper ghosts and things of the sort for you to be frightened of, you spy a sign written in marker that reads "Welcome to Pumpkinville." You see the pumpkins are on sale for \$2 to \$4, depending on size.

Next you catch site of a wooden arch in the shape of a pumpkin with a mouth acting as a doorway. All around him are D.A.R.E. signs and police officers. Ironically enough, this pumpkin looks very much like he himself is on drugs. You expect it to go all downhill from there.

Within 20 minutes you are running through a cornfield maze dodging grim reapers, "Scream" stalkers and a crazed hockey-mask wearing chainsaw killer.

"Field of Screams," is the latest of D.A.R.E.'s (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) "Fright Night," which is held every year around Halloween. This year, it decided to hold its haunting at a corn field on Taft Highway, 1 mile west of Old River Road. It's held Friday through Sunday until Halloween, and costs \$6 to enter.

A maze in the cornfield serves as the "Field of Screams," and the effect is good. With movies like "Children of the Corn," "X-Files: Fight the Future," and more recently, "Signs," people have come to see cornfields as a place of true terror. And soon you realize firsthand just how frightening they can be.

The first stretch of the maze isn't that scary. Mostly it features meandering children with faces barely painted. They "hide" behind

cornstalks and wait for the few who didn't see them to come close enough to startle. There's also a few behind the scenes guys throwing sand at the corn for dramatic effect.

"I liked the guy with the sharp teeth. He threw dirt on us," says Erin Sullivan, a student at Columbia Elementary School, who loves to be scared.

A bored individual might take this chance to sneak up on these made-up children and dirt throwers and do a little startling of their own.

Next you come to a patch out of the cornfield where there are many scarecrows on display. There's a headless one, and one who bears a striking resemblance to Dickens' Jacob Marley from "A Christmas Carol." Shortly after jokingly saying to yourself "God bless us, everyone," you follow the path back into the cornstalk. From there, all hell breaks loose.

As you walk through the maze, which you now discover is a lot larger than you had anticipated, music plays from unseen speakers as you run into all manners of monsters.

"The scariest part was the boogey eyed monster," says Sobna Burce-Oliver, a student at Fruitvale Elementary School.

A Jason from the "Friday the 13th" movie series makes an appearance with a realistic sounding chainsaw. Is it real? You want to see, but you are too startled to go find out. Suddenly the Grim Reaper shows up out of nowhere. But don't fear the reaper, there's aliens ahead.

You visit an alien crash site, with many miscellaneous sound bites ranging from old '50s sci-fi movies to the cinematic masterpiece "Masters of the Universe." Lights from the spaceship glow, as the radioactive smog covers your path. Things yell at you from below, but you have no idea what they say. You find the way leading from the crash site, but the



ROGER HORNBACK / THE RIP

Tara Hayes frightens visitors to Clear Channel's Fear Factory. Fear Factory is located at the old Lumberjack on White Lane.

worst scare lies just ahead. But that's something you must experience for yourselves. In fact there may be even more surprises if you visit.

"We'll be adding some new exciting thrills new for this weekend, even if they've been there before, they can expect something new," says

Karen Bennett, one of the planners and organizers of "Field of Screams."

You leave the cornfield, realizing how scary a group of kids, city volunteers and police officers working to raise money for education against drugs are capable of being.

Fear Factory: This scary place isn't for the kids

By BEN OLIVER Opinion Editor

When you hear the phrase haunted house, you often remember back to being a child, visiting Scream in the best parts of being a kid.

This place isn't for kids. Fear Factory, the funhouse from the Clear Channel Radio, is definitely going to scare some people, but not the way Campus Life's Scream in the Dark, or D.A.R.E.'s Fright Night, would.

This place seems to be more directed at the older horror fan than the preadolescent thrill-seeker. It contains images and scenes that seem more at home in the one realm more frightening than any ever placed into a horror movie: the realm of reality.

"It was really scary when the lady was screaming in the bathtub all covered with blood," says Susan Perkins, an 8-year-old Castle Elementary School student who braved the house of horrors.

When you enter, you are greeted by a dark figure in a dark hallway who wants you to get out, and if you are under the age of 10, it might be good to do just that.

What follows is a series of adventures, like running through a living room with a man wearing a gas mask. So we are left to assume the bomb was dropped.

You also get to see a room with a killer in a corner, smiling maniacally, after decorating the room with drawings in his victim's blood. Why don't

they just add a sniper room? It seems the days when we're scared and tickled by Dacula and the Wolf Man are over. Now we must live in a time of fear. In a few years we'll be chased through these houses by people in bin Laden masks.

Now this fun house was enjoyable, but a parent might think twice before bringing the kids along. For those ready to brave the Fear Factory, tickets are \$6 at the old Lumberjack building on White Lane.

They are also aware that some costumes cannot be replicated. A few years ago, both shops received a letter from the patented owners of Barney, the friendly purple dinosaur. But this letter was not so friendly.

"Basically we were told to stop renting Barney costumes or we would be fined something like \$6,000 for copyright violations," said Tom Haskell, Stephanie Haskell's son.

Draft dodging is not the answer

By ARCHER SIERRA Rip staff writer

As the United States prepares for conflict in Iraq a question should be crossing everyone's mind now: "Are college students prepared for war?"

While the Selective Service System remains in a standby "caretaker" status, according to their Web site, the possibility of a draft is remote and many students have mixed feelings about the situation with Iraq.

According to a June survey conducted by Republican pollster Frank Luntz, 37 percent of U.S. college students would try to evade the draft if it was initiated, reported a June 21 article in the San Diego Union-Tribune.

"Males were more willing to heed their country's call. Twenty-six percent of men said they would 'likely try to evade the draft,' but 48 percent of women said they would," according to the article. The poll surveyed 634 college students. When more than a dozen BC male students were interviewed about the possibility of war, three of them did not even know they were supposed to register with the Selective Service. Some also said they would evade a draft if it were reinstated.

Many of us have the idea of war. However, Sept. 11, 2001, was a good example of how easily terrorists can create serious damage. They are like snipers waiting in



GERARDO DELGADILLO / THE RIP

the bushes, picking us off one by one, and waiting for the moment when they can take out a crowd.

Evasion of a draft is not the answer. It is important that Americans take a stand against terrorism. Let's remember that terrorism feeds off fear, and living under the threat of it on a daily basis is not a peaceful way to live.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Additional classes would keep Latinos from dropping out

The issue concerning the development of a Chicano/Latino department is not a "color" or "race" issue. It is one that concerns the students and higher education.

Multiculturalism has contributed to the student success rate at various California community colleges.

To know your past and that of others cannot only inform, but broaden students' horizons and awareness.

Most higher education institutions, including some overseas, value the importance of this branch of education.

Chicano studies is not a new and radical idea for Bakersfield College. In fact, this institution once offered 17 Chicano studies courses.

Now, with the Chicano/Latino student population at 38.6 percent, a department would not only be beneficial to the students, but to Bakersfield College and the community as well.

With the Chicano dropout rate

presently at 40 percent, a department would help invigorate students to pursue higher education.

These students could prosper and benefit society. The added benefit is the opening of the student mind. When our minds are open, we are aware.

There is much more than the Eurocentric view of thinking. As children, we were taught that Christopher Columbus "discovered" America. Tell that to our Native American brothers and sisters.

After all, we are all Americans.

ABEL NUÑEZ-GUERRERO BC M.E.Ch.A.

Writer wishes M.E.Ch.A. luck in effort to create new department

My name is Gabriel Cruz and I'm the sports editor of The Voice at Glendale Community College in Glendale, Arizona.

Our newspaper staff receives The Renegade Rip and I always look forward to reading it, but the Sept. 13

issue of your newspaper put the but- ter on the bread when they featured "M.E.Ch.A. plans Monday student walkout."

I am also the current president of the M.E.Ch.A. organization on my campus, and it was nice to know you focused on a school organization's issues with the campus and what they are doing in order to get some of those problems resolved.

I myself have worked hard this past semester just to get a class dealing with my own culture, and knowing they were not going to teach it at a "peak" time where students were going to sign up for that class.

It's nice to know that the student organization in Bakersfield came together as a whole to get some media involved, and that's what really made me feel proud to be somewhat associated with the same core of college students who feel the same way as I do, in another part of the country. I wish Bakersfield M.E.Ch.A. all the luck, for I walk in solidarity with them.

GABRIEL CRUZ Glendale Community College student

'GADE FEEDBACK

Compiled by Benigno Pena / The Rip

What would it take for you to fight for your country?



John Diel, sociology: "Not much. I'm willing to fight for my country."



Natasha Clay, undecided: "My family and my friends. Other than that, everything is irrelevant to me."



Ernesto Gomez, geology: "I say honor and pride more than anything. If you don't have those two you have nothing."



Missy Hubble, sociology: "I think that the terrorist attacks would make me fight for my country."



Darren White, business administration: "I always wanted, when I was a little kid, to be in the army."

THE RENEGADE RIP staff list including Editor in Chief, Sports Editor, Photo Editor, and Reporters.

GADE FEEDBACK section with reader letters and photos.

CLASSIFIEDS, TRANSFER SERVICES PRESENTS UC & CSU STUDENT TRANSFER INFORMATION, and SCHOLARSHIP NOTE.

A Halloween's Eve Concert Sunday, October 27.

Supreme Bean advertisement for coffee and espresso.

FREE Checking! FREE Phone Card! and VISA Check Card advertisement.

'GADE NEWSLINE

Alumni Pep Band to play at Homecoming
The BC Homecoming Alumni Pep Band will perform Saturday as part of Homecoming festivities.
The tailgate concert is at 6 p.m. and the game starts at 7 p.m., according to Robert Martinez, band and orchestra director.
Call him at 335-4546 to reserve a seat in the band.

Orchestra to hold Sunday Halloween concert
A Halloween Eve Concert will be presented by the BC Chamber Orchestra Sunday at St. John's Lutheran Church at 912 New Stone Road, according to Robert Martinez, band and orchestra director.
Doors open at 3:30 p.m. and the concert starts at 4 p.m. General admission is \$5, students and seniors are \$3, and children under 12 are free.
The concert will feature music of Andrew Lloyd Webber, Maurice Ravel and John Williams.
For more information, call Martinez at 395-4546.

Garden Shed offers pumpkins, fall-related merchandise
The Garden Shed opened Wednesday in the horticulture facility. Next week, the campus nursery will feature carved jack-o'-lanterns and pre-lit pumpkins for sale, along with fall earrings, bracelets and birdfeeders.
The Garden Shed will be open Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For additional information, e-mail Jeanna Foy at jfoyc@bc.cc.ca.us.

— Compiled by staff writer Courtney Ross

CORRECTIONS

The names of actresses Cory Rickard and Jenny Abis were misspelled in an Oct. 4 story about the Kern Shakespeare Festival on the front page of *The Rip*. Also, professional actor Bob Kempf is from Los Angeles, not Bakersfield.
The *Rip* staff apologizes for any inconvenience caused by the errors.

Film features clichés, killer videotapes

By JOHN VODOPIJA
Photo Editor

Americans have been given the most convincing argument to kill their televisions.
Based on a Japanese movie, "The Ring" follows the troubles of reporter Rachel Keller (Naomi Watts) whose niece watches a videotape on a motel television that causes the viewer to die in seven days. When the skeptical reporter decides to investigate the girl's death, she and her son watch the tape on the family television and find out they have only seven days to live. So Keller grabs her ex-husband, played by Martin Henderson, for some investigative journalism.

"The Ring" has pretty much everything needed for a scary movie, including the obligatory creepy kid, played especially well by David Dorfman. Dorfman has followed in the tradition of fellow creepy kids such as the twins from "The Shining" and Haley Joel Osment from "The Sixth Sense." Heck, Dorfman was up there with the "There is no spoon" kid from "The Matrix," who was creepy in his own right.
The dark and disturbing visuals may just be a little too much for some people with a weak stomach, but the gore wasn't shoved down your throat. The gray atmosphere and suspenseful music did most of the work.
At only an hour and 45 minutes, this film seems to be about three. Still, it's a good movie to make your date sit close to you. Or better yet wait until it comes to your local Blockbuster. Just to be on the safe side, you might want to rent it on DVD.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DREAMWORKS PICTURES
Rachel Keller (Naomi Watts) makes a horrifying discovery in "The Ring."

SERRANO: President seeks Latino success

Continued from Page 1
And those alumni always cherish coming back to watch and see what the present day "Gades have to offer."

Stan Greene, who played quarterback on the unbeaten National Championship 1968 team, said that playing in the Homecoming game was one of his proudest moments as a Renegade.
"Homecoming was much more special to me because I was playing for the alumni," Greene said. "I cherish it even more coming back and watching as an alumnus with the old timers of the team, which an old timer is what I am becoming," he added jokingly.
Besides coming back to watch the game as an alumnus, there are other rea-

This semester, a program was established to support Latino students in a career in sciences, engineering or computer studies.
"We have an interest as well as a commitment from the Parents program that we could become a Parents site, which utilizes English courses as a means to integrate Chicano literature, mentors and community partners to support Latino students in succeeding in English," she said.
Serrano expressed her disappointment over last month's student walk-out.

"I thought that it was important for the students to remain in class, as I had shared with both Patrick McKeowny, president of BC's M.E.C.A. chapter, and staff," she said. "As I indicated to them, I really requested that they had not called for a walkout because I felt that was contrary to our goals.
"Our goal is to have Latino students succeed and that requires being in class and I really saw a walk-out as being a measure to gain the attention of the administration in order to influence an outcome to their request, and the attention has already been there," she said.



BENIGNO PENA / THE RIP
Tight Defense
BC's Stacy Stansbury, back, attempts a steal from L.A. Pierce's Tricia Aposemena during a game at BC Tuesday. L.A. Pierce held off the 'Gades 2-0.

Players return for Homecoming

By Leanne Cave
Rip staff writer

The 2002 Bakersfield College Renegades will write their chapter for the Homecoming history book Saturday in front of some well-known athletes of years past.
And those alumni always cherish coming back to watch and see what the present day "Gades have to offer."
Stan Greene, who played quarterback on the unbeaten National Championship 1968 team, said that playing in the Homecoming game was one of his proudest moments as a Renegade.
"Homecoming was much more special to me because I was playing for the alumni," Greene said. "I cherish it even more coming back and watching as an alumnus with the old timers of the team, which an old timer is what I am becoming," he added jokingly.
Besides coming back to watch the game as an alumnus, there are other rea-

sons why former players come back to reminisce at Homecoming.
Steve Denman, who played for the 'Gades in '75-'76, the Rose Bowl years, and now coaches for the Tehachapi High Warriors, remembers the inspired coaching he received while playing for BC.
"All kinds of players come back to see the coaches they played for, coaches like Gerry Collis, Carl Bowser and Duane Darnon, just to name a few," Denman said.
"I can't say enough about these coaches. They treated players like individuals and with respect. They are the greatest group of coaches. The way they coached and what they taught me has a lot to do with the way I coach at Tehachapi."
It will be an interesting game as the 'Gades, (2-3) will face a solid Allan Hancock Bulldog team that usually gives BC fits until the final tick on the clock. Not only that, but BC will attempt to rebound from a disappointing 42-33 loss to the East Los Angeles Huskies, a team it hadn't lost in 29 games.
Nathan Baker, who will start as quarterback on Saturday, said he hopes that everybody is ready.
"We've had some tough losses and we're pretty fed up with that," he said. "We've had some time to get things together and I think everything will be in sync for the Homecoming game."
"This game is pretty big. It's going to be exciting to play in front of storied players."
Outside linebacker Samir Grady hopes the 'Gades will do well.
"We have had our ups and downs as a team," Grady said. "We just need to all be on the same page making the plays that win the game. It's kinda cool playing in a Homecoming game in front of older players with older stories of success."
The Homecoming king and queen will be crowned at halftime during the game. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m.

Hardwood heating up for new season

Bakersfield College's men's and women's basketball teams are gearing up for another season of exciting hoops action.
Coached by Paula Dahl, the women's squad has been practicing several times a week in preparation for the season opening tournament in San Diego.
Head coach George Nessman will lead the men's team on the court this season after the 'Gades made a playoff appearance last year. This will be his first year as head coach.
This season, when the two teams play home games on the same day in the Gil Bishop Sports Center, the men's team will play first, followed by the women.
The upcoming women's schedule is:
•San Diego Mesa Tournament, Nov. 8-11.
•Glendale Tournament, Nov. 15-17.
•Away vs. Reedley, Nov. 21 at 5 p.m.
•Away vs. Ventura, Nov. 23 at 7 p.m.
•Home vs. Taft, Nov. 27 at 6 p.m.
•Home vs. Rio Hondo, Dec. 3 at 6 p.m.



ROGER HORNBACK / THE RIP
Shannon Tatsuno, left, defends a pass by Jaime Perry during practice Monday in the Gil Bishop Sports Center.

PARSONS: Professor finishes Alcatraz Invitational despite challenge of strong currents

Continued from Page 1
Lynne Cox, the event's master of ceremonies, described it as "one of the more difficult swims in recent memory" in an interview with a reporter from the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette.
The currents, she said, "were more challenging than anticipated and made the swim longer than the usual (1 1/2 miles)."
Parsons learned firsthand how tough the currents were when he and other swimmers were swept off course.
"The current twists you around," he said. "You have to keep ahead of

the current."
After being repositioned twice by the official pilots, who drift and paddle among the swimmers, he finished in one hour and 27 minutes.
Despite the setback, he was happy to finish.
"I made it. I'm done," Parsons said.
Along with mountain climbing, hiking and bowling.
In his late 40s, he also ran two half-marathons, both in Colorado.
When asked if the Alcatraz challenge changed him, Parsons said, "Oh, I guess it just renews my belief

that I can do just about whatever I want, not whatever, but just about."
Anna Agenjo, library director and his partner on the college bowling team said, "I don't think anything is too daunting for him. Whatever he decides to do, he goes all the way."
Parsons, who recently earned his Ph.D., works 40 to 60 hours per week one-on-one with the faculty, putting on workshops, getting media and instruction ready, and running the computer lab, keeping the software and hardware running.
He said his first career was working for Hewlett Packard for 25 years before coming to Bakersfield Col-

lege a year and a half ago.
Parsons does have other accomplished areas of life.
His wife, Beverly, was with him at the Alcatraz event, rooting for him all the way.
And he speaks fondly of his three grown children — Jafe, 32; Jared, 35; and June, 37 — as well as his grandchild, Tynlor, 10, all of whom live in Colorado.
His boss, Dr. Greg Chamberlain, dean of learning resources and information technology, said, "Clark is pretty tenacious and when he sets his mind to do something, you're pretty much assured that he'll do it."

He described Parsons as someone who knows how to accomplish his goals.
When Chamberlain was asked if he would participate in such a race, he replied, "No way."
But Parsons wants to try the swim again.
"I want to do this one more time to see if I can be more efficient," Parsons said.
"However, there are other adventures my wife and I have been talking about doing, like climbing Mount Kilimanjaro in Africa, hiking in New Zealand or kayaking in Alaska," he said.

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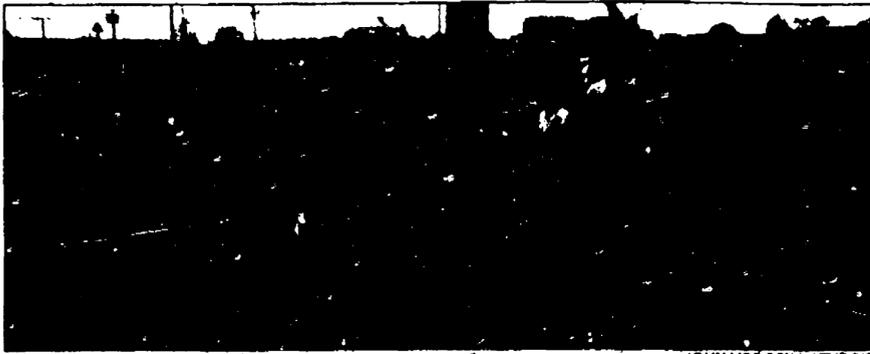
Far left:
A girl in a gorilla mask shows off her homemade sign before the game.



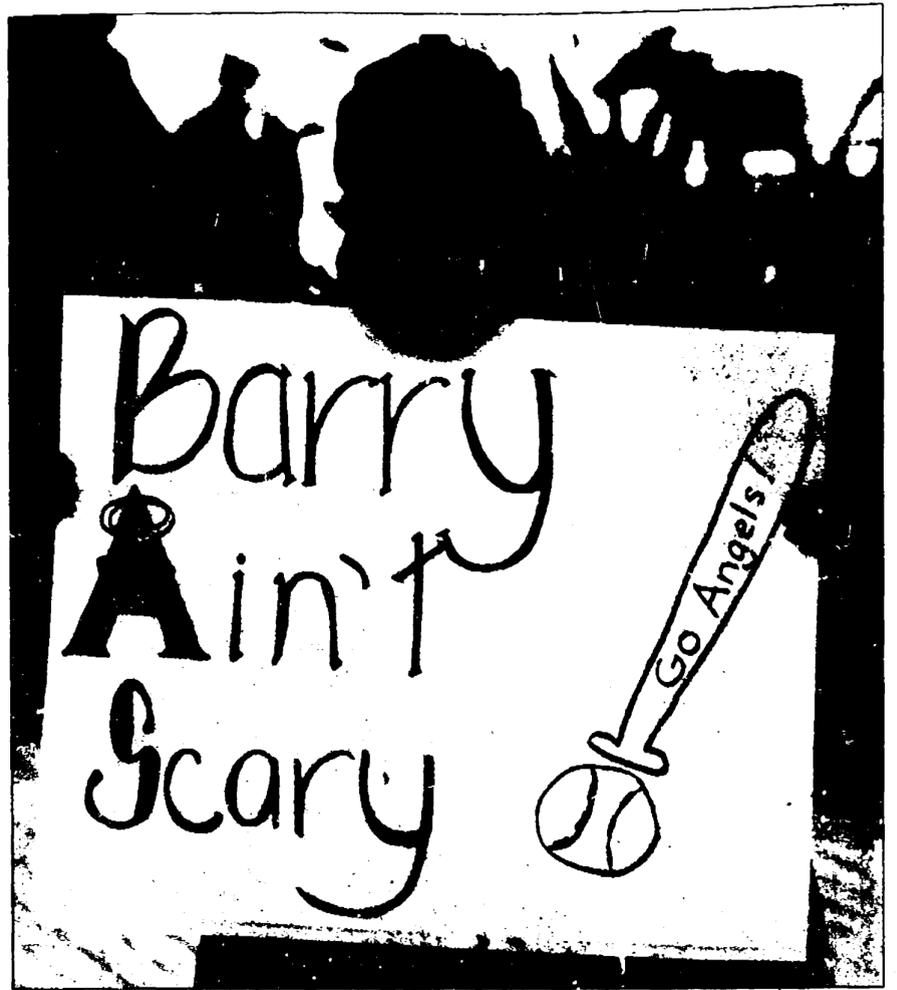
JOHN VODOPIJA / THE RIP

Left:
Fans of the two teams show off their jerseys.

Below:
Ticket holders form a long line to get into the stadium.



JOHN VODOPIJA / THE RIP



JOHN VODOPIJA / THE RIP

By JOHN VODOPIJA
Photo Editor

ANAHEIM — A day like this only comes around once every 42 years.

The sky may have been gray for game one of the 2002 World Series, but that did not stop Angels fans from coming out of the woodwork to celebrate the first time their home team had made it to the show.

The atmosphere was electric on the corner of State College Avenue and Gene Autry Way where the first of the Rally Monkey vendors set up shop in a gas station parking lot with dozens of stuffed monkeys hanging off of each arm.

Fans lined up by the thousands on Oct. 19, forming a long red and blue snake winding its way around Edison International Field. At the mouth of the entrance to the stadium hundreds of people milled around waiting for the gates to open, while others held up makeshift signs begging for a ticket to what would be a milestone in Angels' history.

Older fans of the team wore caps from the early days when the team was the California Angels.

Still there were a few brave fans donning the traditional black and orange of the San Francisco Giants.

Their endurance of the persecution from the Anaheim crowd eventually paid off, because the Giants won the first game 4-3, proving that all of the CheerStix that China can make still can't stop Barry Bonds from hitting a home run.

Rootin' for the Home Team

Anaheim Angels fans show team sprit for the first game of the World Series



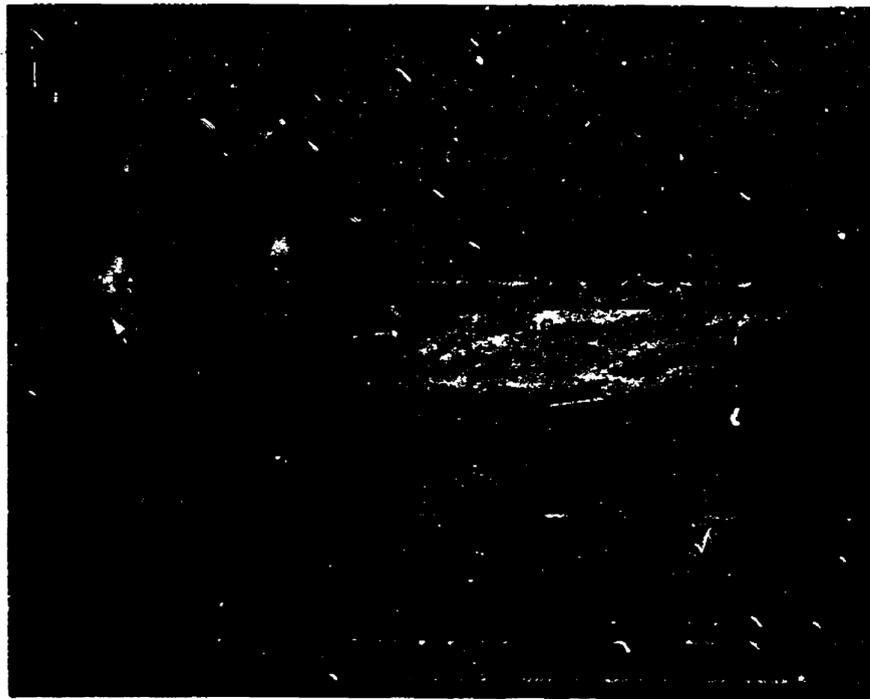
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Left:
Anaheim resident Darrin Sauvey, 7, sports a full Angels uniform while waiting for the ballgame to start on Oct. 19.



ANISSA CANDELARIA / THE RIP

Right:
Excited fans gather outside of Edison International Field in preparation for the first game of the World Series. Anaheim lost the game by one run with a score of 4-3.



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