

BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE

THE RENEGADE RIP

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M.E.Ch.A. plans Monday student walkout

BY TRACY HOSTMYER
Campus Editor

Bakersfield College students who support the creation of a Chicano Studies Department are being asked by a campus club to walk out of their classes at 10:30 a.m. Monday.

The staged protest, which is being organized by M.E.Ch.A. (Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan), will be the group's latest attempt to draw the attention to the need for more Chicano studies classes.

The group held a press conference Sept. 4 and addressed the Kern Community College District Board of Trustees the following day.

The Monday walkout, which will be one of a number of activities during the week, will be held to emphasize that BC students need more than three Chicano Studies classes, said Leon Arellano, a BC graduate. The college needs a Chicano

Studies Department, he maintains.

"Department. That says it all. That's the bottom line. They've been dancing around the issue, and it boils down to just one word: Department. That's it," he said.

And Arellano said that the club will be staging the protest even though administrators are concerned about getting negative press before the Kern Community College District's \$180 million bond issue goes to the voters on Nov. 5.

"We've been told, 'Look, this bond issue's coming up in November. Don't bring bad press to BC. We need the voters to cast their votes with a clear conscience.'"

"What I've got to say to that is BC already is having bad press, because of the construction funds that have been mismanaged, (and) the controversy over the pool. I think there was one gentleman who donated \$300,000 and then he was told that his children could not swim in the pool. ... The fact that the adminis-

tration has been unstable. I think that the entire three years I was here, there was interim this, interim that."

Ken Meier, vice president of student learning, could not be reached for comment Wednesday about Arellano's comments regarding the administration. He did explain in an interview Tuesday his concerns about BC creating a Chicano Studies Department.

"We've got hundreds and hundreds of students who couldn't get into math, English, social science, history classes. ... If I had the money, I could have offered 30 or 40 more sections of core courses, so I have to do this cost-benefit analysis in my own mind about what is the greatest good for the greatest number of students. So right now if I have to choose between supporting a full-time department chair, or supporting another 20 or 30 sections of math and English, this is a difficult decision, but I have to ask what is going to benefit the most Hispanic stu-

dents in the long run?"

Meier said that faculty members are responsible for creating new curriculum, not the administration. Even if a new department is created, it would still need state approval, he said. Any new classes would have to be transferrable.

"I really want to be able to guarantee our students will be able to transfer, or what's the point of coming to Bakersfield College? And quite frankly, I don't think people who demand curriculum at the college necessarily understand these articulation issues."

M.E.Ch.A. leaders say they've been trying to get a Chicano Studies Department created for the past three years.

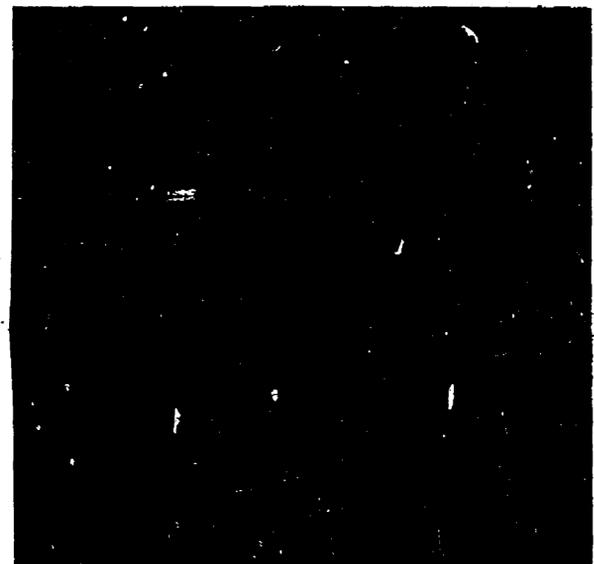
Meier said he has shared an August memo with M.E.Ch.A. that would establish a Chicano studies program. A department proposal would have to be approved by the Academic Senate and faculty union. The entire process could take more than two years, according to the memo.



BENIGNO PENA / THE RIP

BC graduate Leon Arellano speaks at the news conference Sept. 4.

REMEMBERING SEPT. 11



ROGER HORNBACK / THE RIP

Music teacher Dr. John Gerhold sings "Bridge Over Troubled Water" at BC's 9/11 ceremony Wednesday at the flagpole in front of the Administration building.

Celebration of Unity

Marketplace event brings residents throughout the city together

BY AMBER GARCIA
Rip staff writer

American flags clasped in the hands of small, laughing children. Countless people sitting in lawn chairs wearing shirts that say "United we Stand" or "I LOVE NY." The feeling of patriotism and unity still fresh in the air and a huge American flag being used as a backdrop.

The 2002 Bakersfield Unites For the Stars and Stripes, held at the Marketplace Sunday from 2 to 9 p.m., was a chance for the community to gather and savor the spirit of unity. And according to Lili Marsh, the event's organizer, that was the point.

"Everyone seemed a little nicer after 9/11," Marsh said. "If you can

remind people of that once a year, that's the goal."

Marsh also organized last year's event, which was attended by approximately 20,000 people and raised \$75,000 for the Red Cross, and says she hoped this becomes an annual event. The event was also sponsored by KERO Channel 23 News.

"We are asking that you continue this beautiful tradition of bringing our community together in the spirit of patriotism, unity and celebrating that you (terrorists) may tear down our buildings, but you cannot destroy our spirit," said newscaster Jackie Parks.

Mayor Harvey Hall also spoke of the community before introducing a painting entitled "Bakersfield Pride"



JOHN VODOPIJA / THE RIP

Shauna Bargar holds Hanah, 1, while enjoying the Marketplace event Sunday.

donated to the city by artist Thomas Kinkadee.

"I'm so proud of the city of Bakersfield and our community," Hall said. "You care about people, you care about your freedom and about your liberty. But most of all, you care about your neighbors."

Tents also were set up, offering face paintings, American flags and balloons. Among the performers was a dance group from St. Augustine Church in Lamont, wearing brightly colored dresses and jackets

and moving to traditional mariachi music in honor of the "saints" who had died in last year's terrorist attacks. Various local musicians performed, from Fat Daddy Blues Band to Mento Buru. There was even a rendition of "Amazing Grace" on the bagpipes, and a photo montage of various American symbols, from the Statue of Liberty to the bald eagle, shown over "America the Beautiful."

The grand finale could have been a scene straight from a movie: A vibrant display of fireworks cascading

down in vivid reds, greens and golds. For most of the kids, it was probably the best reason for sticking around until 9 p.m. and for the adults, perhaps a sealing of their patriotism. Before the night's fireworks, Kern County Sheriff Carl Sparks spoke of the country's stand against terrorism and how proud he was to be a part of Bakersfield.

"Bakersfield is my home," he said. "When I retire, Bakersfield will continue to be my home. There's no place like Bakersfield."

Dale Claiborne, Dave Wulfekuehler, Gregg Lopez and Bunky Spuring of the band Okra perform for students in Campus Center Sept. 5



SHARON FINIGAN / THE RIP

ASBC brings back Fall Welcome event

BY COURTNEY ROSS
Rip staff writer

The Associated Students of Bakersfield College welcomed students back to school with bands, barbecue, cheerleaders and club booths.

It has been two years since the last Fall Welcome, according to ASBC President Rafael Galvan.

"Fall Welcome is to give students in-

formation on the activities that will go on here," he said.

"Also, to let students know what services Bakersfield College offers, and that makes it a whole lot easier."

The Fall Welcome was held last week. It was brought back to encourage team and school spirit, along with co-curricular activities.

Greg Lopez, the ASBC representative on the district Board of Trustees, said that

Josiah Farber, the event organizer, did a good job.

"The students are what it is about," he said.

Galvan said that students that are interested in becoming involved in other ASBC activities may wish to apply for student government vacancies.

For more information, call ASBC at 395-4355 or stop by the Student Activities office in Campus Center 4.

a Time for Reflection

Memory of Sept. 11 reminds Americans to be more tolerant of differences

BY LILIANA FAHEL
Special to The Rip

On Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2001, the entire world was thrown off track. Amazement, shock, horror and sheer terror spread throughout the world.

The twin towers of the World Trade Center, in all their splendor, crumbled to the ground after hijacked airliners slammed into them.

As if the destruction of two of the world's tallest skyscrapers wasn't enough, less than an hour later, the Pentagon was struck by yet another hijacked plane. Minutes after the Pentagon attack, the fourth hijacked plane crashed into a field southeast of Pittsburgh.

With a death toll exceeding 3,000, many people suffered from intense emotional anguish and trauma as a result of 9/11.

The catastrophe that occurred on 9/11 will never leave our memory. As an American, I can say that it has left a stamp on my heart.

The scene keeps replaying in my mind whenever I think about it. I never thought what happens in action films could ever become a reality and take so many real lives.

I wasn't looking at actors who can just get up off the floor and brush the dust off their clothes and go on with their lives. Those were real people who died. People who have husbands, wives, children, mothers, fathers, friends and so much more to live for.

As the year has progressed, I close my eyes and see the banners that roll across the television that say "We Will Never Forget," and the shirts that read "United We Stand."

I believe with all my heart that America will truly always remember 9/11, though I'm not sure that we are, in fact, united.

Sure, we saw the firefighters hugging those who were mourning. We saw former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani getting down and dirty and helping out in the rubble alongside President Bush.

We saw black hugging white, we saw blood donors, we saw businessmen in their suits helping firefighters to rescue people.

When we saw all of this on television, or in the newspapers, or when we were listening to it on the radio, did we also happen to see the old man wearing a turban walking down the street and wonder, *is he a terrorist?*

The events of 9/11 have left a huge impact on our society. We've become more aware of our surroundings, especially at airports. In the days after the attacks, many people who had absolutely nothing to do with the tragedy were being punished because they looked like they would fit the role of terrorists.

I remember being at LAX a little less than three weeks ago for a short trip I had planned. I couldn't get my eyes to stop scanning the area surrounding the boarding gate to see if anyone who looked unusual was going to board the plane I was taking.

Finally, they set on a Muslim couple traveling with their child. The woman was veiled, the man had a beard and the child was in a stroller. Even though I knew deep down they were harmless, I could not stop the tension I felt when I saw them.

I used to adore flying, but when I was waiting to board my plane, I dreaded it. I don't believe I'm the only American

who views Muslims differently after 9/11. Let us face the facts. We haven't become united, we've actually become divided. We are left with bitter feelings toward our neighbors because of their race or religion, and that simply isn't right.

Like me, America will never be the same again. The feeling of security has been ripped from our hearts. Our confidence has been altered. But even so, I believe we will regain what we once



GERARDO DELGADILLO / THE RIP

M.E.Ch.A. leader announces plan for student walkout

Hello, my name is Hector Leonzo, a Bakersfield College student and a Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan (Chicano Student Movement of Aztlan, or M.E.Ch.A., for its initials in Spanish) member. BC M.E.Ch.A. has been asking for a Chicano Studies Department for the last three years.

Unfortunately, the president of our college, Sandra Serrano, does not pay any attention to our petitions. Recently we gained the support of Bakersfield's mayor, Harvey Hall.

For this coming Monday, we are planning a demonstration where Bakersfield College students will show support to the establishment of this department.

Starting at 10:30 a.m., all the students in support of this department will walk out of classes and meet in the grass area in front of the library.

It is true that a department does not fall from the sky, and it is true it needs time to be established. M.E.Ch.A. came up with a simple solution. We are just asking Sandra Serrano to appoint a full-time director of the Chicano Cultural Center, who we, the mechistas, pledge to help in the establishment of this department. Sandra Serrano should also give M.E.Ch.A. a written pledge and a timeline clearly indicating that she will help in the establishment of a Chicano Studies Department.

Besides various Cal States and UCs, there are two other community colleges in the state of California that have a strong Chicano Studies Department. These two colleges are East Los Angeles College, with 23 courses, and San Diego College.

Sandra Serrano states that there is no money for this department, but there are some BC directors that received a raise in their salary not too long ago. It's true that we have no money, but we don't need an Olympic-size pool. It's true that it's nice having the community coming to BC to swim, but BC is an educational place, not a park.

M.E.Ch.A. would appreciate if you could show up this coming Monday and witness how bad Bakersfield College students want the establishment of a Chicano Studies Department. BC M.E.Ch.A. thanks you beforehand.

Hector Leonzo
BC M.E.Ch.A.

Debate sways student in Kern sheriff's race

I am a political science major at Cal State University, Bakersfield. The candidates for Kern County sheriff, Mack Wimbish and Steve Perez, recently appeared in a forum before my community politics class. Before the class, I was undecided about whom to support in November, but during the debate, my choice became crystal clear.

Steve Perez made a strong impression on me. Everything about him screamed leadership and responsibility. He responded to each question, even the "loaded" and aggressive ones, with care and clarity. He showed respect for the questioner and his opponent. He gave no "canned" answers. His logical, organized approach to the issues and his knowledgeable and confident manner inspired confidence.

Mr. Perez had amazing presence and the perfect qualifications and experience. We learned he spent 24 years of his life as a sheriff deputy, giving tough service on the local Bakersfield patrol, in the jails and as a narcotics and burglary detective. His three terms as president of the Kern Law Enforcement Association show his peers respect him.

I became so convinced that Mr. Perez is the right choice for sheriff that, after the debate, I committed the rest of my summer as a volunteer on his campaign. I would encourage voters to visit www.perezsheriff.com to discover why he should be the next Kern County sheriff.

Shaannon Fowler
CSUB student

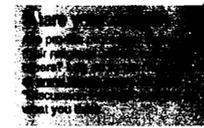
Protesters attempt to force religious views on others



BY ARCHER SIERRA
Opinion Editor

I believe we live in a society that has become liberal enough that individuals should not be shoving their personal preferences down each other's throats. According to the office manager of the Family Planning Clinic located at 2500 H St., protesters are consistently in front of the clinic every Monday and Tuesdays on a weekly basis.

This is an invasion of privacy. The women entering this clinic have utilized their right of pro choice. Don't these "protesters" have jobs? Where are their children while they are camping out? According to Sgt. Bill Maxwell of the Bakersfield Police Department, the sidewalk is public property and the protesters have the right to assemble. That's fine and great, but what about the safety of these women entering the clinic?



"They are as safe at that point as they are walking in the city," Maxwell said.

Safe? In 1993, a man ran his truck through the wall of the facility. In 1997, the facility was burned down at its former location on Old Stockdale Highway.

I visited the clinic to see what it would be like to be exposed to these protesters. I was appalled to hear such things as, "They're doing it for the money" and "This is murder, think about it!"

I couldn't help but think of the word "radicals." Regardless of my

own religious belief, I would never consider violating someone else's sense of privacy in such a personal matter. Remember, there are many reasons why women choose abortion, including medical reasons and age, as some of the young women are in their teenage years, which is a good reason to think about safe sex or abstinence until marriage. Whatever the reason, it comes down to a matter of personal choice.

If we allow protesters to continue this type of harassment, what's next? Perhaps we should allow atheists to camp out in front of churches with signs telling Christians that they have made a poor choice to believe in God?

Yes, the protesters in front of the clinic have the right to assemble, but they are trying to force their religious views on others. Let's not forget that our country was established so people could be free of religious persecution.

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'GADE FEED

What have the American people learned since Sept. 11?

<p>Cheran Harris, Liberal Studies: "They've learned that when we take God out of schools and everything the country has gone down. Now we're turning back to God. That's what this country was based on."</p>	<p>Kanta Kiloi, Computer studies: "America has had to improve their security."</p>	<p>Nicole Wood, Physical Education: "Maybe our guard was down a little too much, letting our allies too much of our country at spare."</p>	<p>Darren Amos, Nursing: "As far as we have learned our lessons, I don't know. Our borders are still wide open, security hasn't improved, so we are wide open to attacks."</p>	<p>Maribel Zuniga, Corrections: "There's more security."</p>
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Creed calls

Hundreds wait for hours to buy tickets for concert.

BY ANISSA CANDELARIA AND ROGER HORNBACK
Rip staff writers

Kim Blair was excited to be in line for Creed concert tickets, but became a little discouraged when she found out about the lottery drawing set up to kick off the sale.

"I've been going to concerts for years and you know, you get out here and you wait and you earn your place in line," she said. "This one kind of makes me nervous. I didn't know anything about (the lottery). I'm sitting here biting my nails because you know where you're going to end up at."

But Blair's lucky number came early, as she was the first among hundreds of Bakersfield residents who gathered outside Centennial Garden early Saturday to get tickets to Creed's Oct. 6 show.

Fans lined up with their sleeping bags, ice chests and radios as early as 4:45 a.m. in hopes of getting good seats.

But they waited for nearly three and a half hours before or-



Sam Comejo puts lottery wristband on Cyndi Burn outside the Centennial Garden.

ganizers started passing out wristbands for the lottery, which determined who would buy their tickets first.

For Ibis Sanchez, it was worth the wait.

"It's a band that really stands out and they really encourage me in their lyrics and what they stand for," he said.

"I really think they're worth being out here early in the morning."

Some waited in line for the benefit of family members.

"It's my son's birthday present, and he decided this is what he wanted," said Glenn Blakelob.

Creed hit it big in 1997. According to the band's official Web site, *"My Own Prison,"* has sold more than 6 million copies.

Their second and third albums — *"Jars of Clay,"* released in 1999, and *"Weathered,"* released in 2001 — debuted at No. 1 on the Billboard charts and have sold millions of copies.

Based in Florida, the alternative rock band will bring along opening acts Sevendust and 12 Stones for its first ever Bakersfield concert.

Tickets range from \$38.50 to \$48.50 and are on sale at Centennial Garden.

Doors open at 6:15 p.m. on the day of the concert.

For more information, call Centennial Garden at 852-7777 or visit its Web site at www.centennialgarden.com.

BC opens new child care center

New facility offers improvements, more space for kids.

BY ANISSA CANDELARIA
Rip staff writer

Selica Garcia had a great time trying to pedal and pull her friends on new buggy bicycles while playing outside the new Bakersfield College Child Care Center.

The new bikes, along with the new slides and the bouncy floor landing, are just some of the improvements that are offered at the new facility.

"What makes this facility particularly special is that we are able to touch the lives of infants, toddlers, adult students as well as future teachers that can really have an impact on generations to come," said Dr. Sandra Serrano, Bakersfield College president during the new facility's dedication Monday morning.

The \$4 million facility started construction December 2000, according to Mary Ann Albanese, director of the center.

"The grant application kind of stayed in limbo for years but it was the changes in welfare reform and the need for child care in order to make welfare reform happen that the funding was finally approved for this project. We were like four community college campuses in California that got the funding for new child development centers," she said.

The new facility's improvements include an additional 1,400 square feet, which allows the children to be active. There is an observation room for students to use that has computer access, plus sound systems where



ANISSA CANDELARIA / THE RIP
Mayor, Harvey Hall gives a speech for the new child care center on Monday.

instructors or students can hear what's going on.

A donation from the instructional technology department allows kids to use computers. The children are now able to get an understanding on how a computer system works.

Most of the children at the center are offspring of Bakersfield College students or faculty members. Students are placed on a priority list according to income. The cost per day is around \$28 for the state-funded program.

During the dedication, Mayor Harvey Hall spoke about the new center.

"Each one of these children that are here today, have parents that are working in our community," he said.

"Not only is Bakersfield College once again stepping up to provide a very, very valuable community service, but helping the parents so that they can enhance their quality of life by being able to work at their jobs and know full well that their children each day are being treated with TLC."

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at
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September 21

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BC Teams and individuals welcome.

For advance registration and fundraising information visit www.lightthenight.org or call, 1-800-960-2022

All funds raised through Light the Night support the Society's mission: to cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma, and to improve the quality of life of patients and their families.

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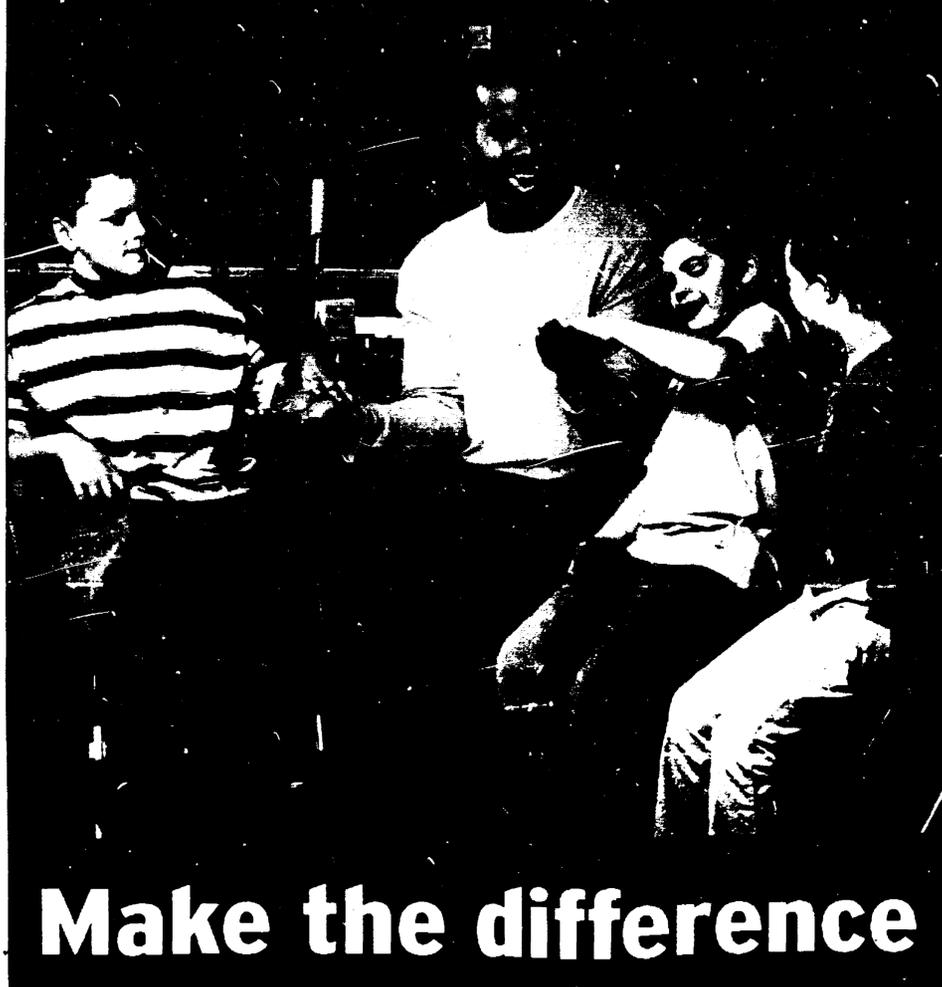
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SPORTS



CHRIS KEELER / THE RIP

BC running back Josh Lopes outruns three Reedley College defenders during the scrimmage on Sept. 4.

Falcon face off

Renegades season opener presents 'tremendous challenge' for young team

BY LEANNE CAVE
Rip staff writer

The Bakersfield College Renegades will face a challenge when the Cerritos Falcons come to town to play the season opener for both teams Saturday at Memorial Stadium at 7 p.m.

Cerritos handed BC a 21-19 loss in the 2001 season that ultimately denied the 'Gades the chance to play for the state championship.

"This will be a tremendous challenge right off the bat," BC head coach Dallas Grider said.

"They are a lot tougher and are even more talented than last year. They don't have a freshman in the starting line-up and they beat us last year. We are a very young team and it will take us a couple of games to make some adjustments and get in sync."

Grider said Cerritos has team depth and experience as 22 sophomores return for the high-flying Falcons.

This game may also be a challenge for the 'Gades because Reedley College was more productive in scoring than BC in the preseason scrimmage held Sept. 4.

Not only that, but David McCrary, a promising running back for the 2002 season, went down with a season ending injury.

"The third time he carried the ball, David dislocated his knee," Grider said. "He could get a medical redshirt, but that remains to be seen."

The good news for the 'Gades this season is at quarterback. There were five candidates vying for the position. All are capable of leading the team to a winning season.

George Valos, a sophomore from Centennial High, will start for the 'Gades against Cerritos.

It seems as though no season would be complete without a little adversity. The news is a double-edged sword for the 'Gades and their fans.

The good news is that the 'Gades are ranked No. 1 in Southern California and have a multitude of talent in which to build a solid team.

The bad news is that the Western State Conference has slapped a two-year probation on the highly touted football program for misuse of team practices.

Also lost were four team practices.

According to athletic director Jan Stuebbe, what happened is that football coaches met with players out on the field in mid-June, which was out of season according to Commission on Athletics rules.

They were just throwing some passes around and exchanging phone numbers, but this was not a part of a summer school class, Stuebbe said.

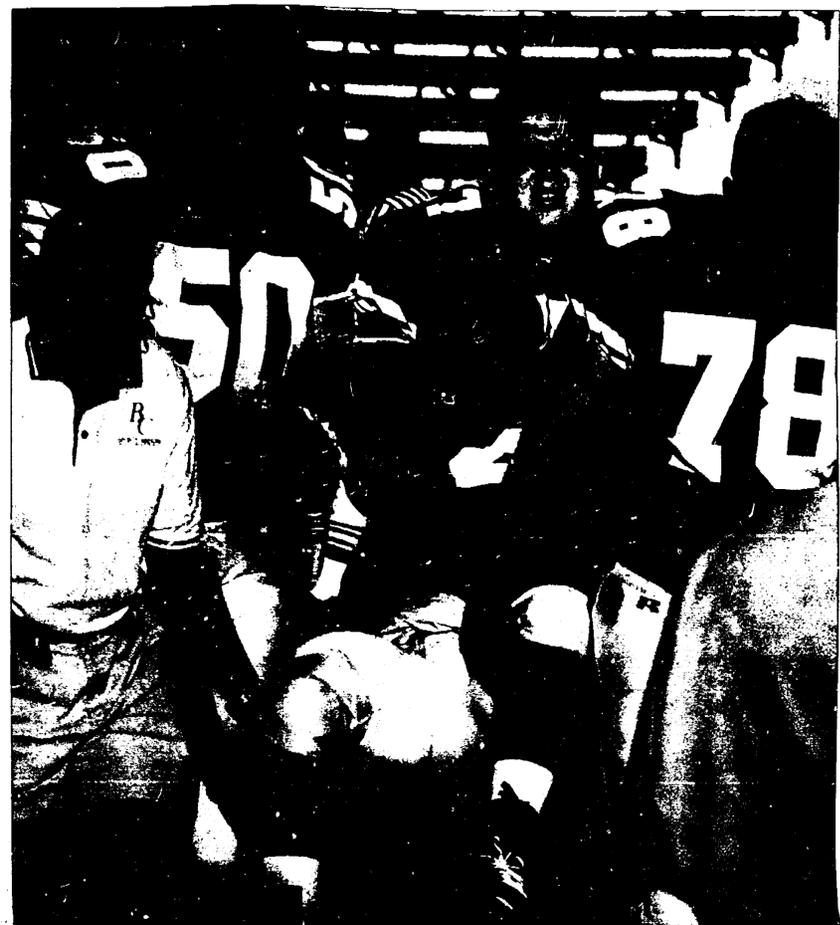
The COA constitution states that coaches can't meet with the team until the designated date, which was Aug. 19.

"Basically we made a mistake and are taking our medicine for it," Stuebbe said.

Fortunately for the 'Gades, as long as there are no more rules violations during the two-year probation period, postseason eligibility will not be affected.

The good news of the scrimmage was that the players were geared up and ready to hit somebody.

"It felt good to get the initial hits going and to get some of the kinks out as a team," said returning outside linebacker Joe Smith. "When we get it all together, it will be like a smooth-running machine."



JOHN VOOPUA / THE RIP



Above: Running back David McCrary is carried off the field by Lucas Johnson, No. 50, K.C. Tittlemier, No. 17, and Tim Neilson, No. 78, after injuring his knee during the scrimmage against Reedley College on Sept. 4.

Left: BC quarterback Mario Fernandez breaks the tackle of a Reedley College defender during the scrimmage at Bakersfield College. The Renegades play their season opener at Memorial Stadium against Cerritos College on Saturday. Kickoff is scheduled for 7 p.m.

Do you have a story idea for *The Rip*? Contact editor Jarrod Graham at 395-4324, e-mail him at rip_editor@hotmail.com or stop by *The Rip* Office in Campus Center 1.

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**A Nederlander
EVENT**

The Renegades take a beating from the Cerritos College Falcons in the football home opener.

Sports, Page 5



Students need to speak out against the cancellation of classes that have plagued BC.

Opinion, Page 2



As expected, stupidity reigns in the latest film offering from the outrageous Canadian comedian.

Features, Page 3



BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE

THE RENEGADE RIP

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Students walk out in protest

M.E.Ch.A. leads walkout in support of new department.

BY ANISSA CANDELARIA
Rip staff writer

Advocates for creating a Chicano Studies Department at Bakersfield College were upset that BC President Dr. Sandra Serrano did not attend their student protest Monday.

"Where is Mrs. Serrano? Why isn't the president of the college out here? Why doesn't she see this as a need or as an important thing to address?" Patrick McKendry, president of BC's M.E.Ch.A. chapter, told the crowd. "We see the rest of the administrators out here, where is she? Is she on vacation? Or playing golf?"

"Sandra Serrano had a conference out of town that was scheduled long ago, and our presidents are very busy. This is an issue where the two vice presidents actually are the ones who should be most responsible for addressing student services issues and that's what this happens to be," responded Ken Meier, vice president of student learning.

More than 100 students showed up outside the campus library to show their support and to voice their concerns. The protest started around 10:30 a.m., when some students walked out of classes, and did not end until 3:30 p.m. M.E.Ch.A. members passed out blue ribbons for students to wear to show support of the cause. Many students held up signs that read "Resist" while some held up the Mexican flag. Students shouted "Viva Chicano Studies De-

partment."

Selene Magana, a BC student, addressed the crowd.

"Someone asked me a question: 'Why should I support you guys for a Chicano Studies Department if you're Mexican and I'm not?'" she said. "This is what I said: This is going to help everyone and anyone who has questions or financial aid problems. This is a department for anyone who needs help."

The push for a Chicano Studies Department started about three years ago, according to Leon Arellano, a BC graduate. In recent meetings, students have asked Serrano to sign a document supporting the idea.

"We gave her a document and it says in that document pretty much, as the president of Bakersfield College, I am committed to listening to the students, committed to having

my door opened, committed that I will use my power and influence to carry out the concerns of the students," he said. "That sounds like things she should already be doing and we told her, 'You know, if you sign this, then this temporarily solves the issue,' but the president of the college did not sign it. She did not agree to any kind of leadership."

In a previous interview with *The Rip*, Meier explained that the creation of a new department would need faculty and state approval, which could take more than two years.

The protest is another action to draw attention to the need for a Chicano Studies Department, according to McKendry.

"Our administration feels like the students are behind and we are trying to show them that the students

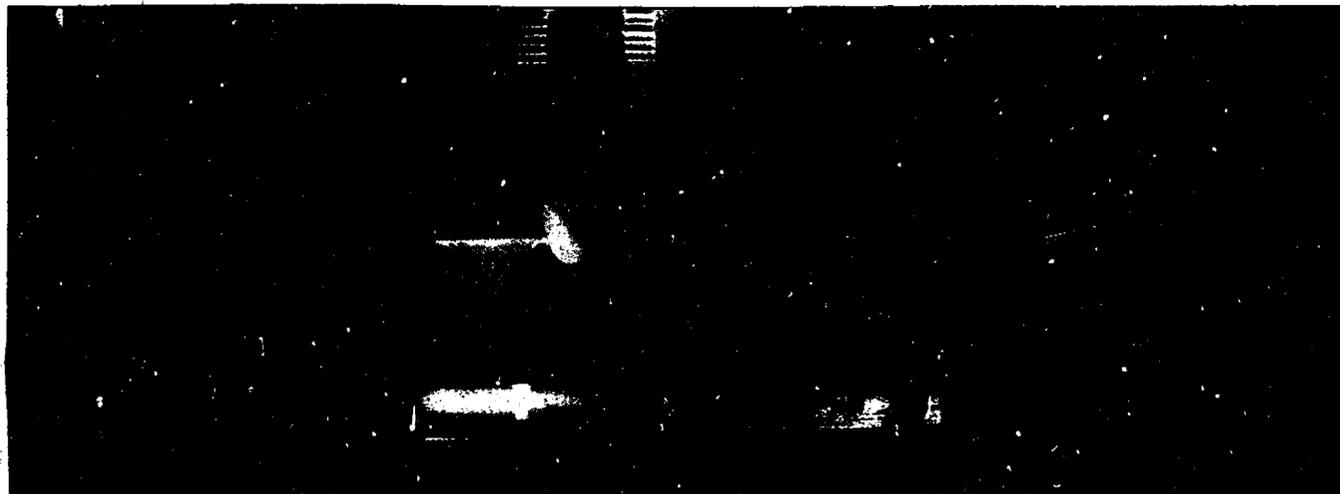


JENNIFER HUBBELL / THE RIP

Vyn Martinez, left, and M.E.Ch.A. secretary Vanessa Renteria work on posters during the protest Monday.

are behind on education that goes beyond just math and science, education that involves our culture and our people and education that involves true American history," he said. "That's what this is about."

Waiting for something to be done has been frustrating for M.E.Ch.A. members. According to Arellano, the school has given M.E.Ch.A. nothing but "M&M's, memos and meetings, and still nothing has yet to be done."



SEAN LEWIS / THE RIP

An illuminating stage presence

James Ratliff, 21, a member of Valley Bible Church, performs at Station 3:16 in downtown Bakersfield. See story, Page 3.

Worker gets probation for vandalism

BY TAMI OLIVARES
Rip staff writer

A Bakersfield College employee pleaded no contest to vandalism charges filed by the Kern County District Attorney's Office in Superior Court, according to court records.

Pamela Jane Miller, a food service employee, appeared in court accompanied by her attorney, John Tello, where she pleaded no contest to charges that she intentionally scratched a 1993 green Toyota Camry belonging to veteran campus custodian Edison Cruz. A no-contest plea is similar to pleading guilty.

Miller and her attorney, John Tello, were contacted, but declined to comment.

In an earlier interview with *The Rip*, she denied causing any damages. She continues to work at BC.

The Kern County District Attorney's Office filed charges in February against Miller after Cruz provided a videotape showing Miller scratching his car.

Cruz said he had noticed scratches on two of his vehicles after changing his normal parking spot back in January.

Cruz and his wife decided to take matters into their own hands by filming the activity around his car.

On Feb. 12, at 5 a.m., his wife and their teenage son filmed a woman who had just parked next to Cruz's Toyota Camry.

In an interview, Cruz said that the woman left the parking lot but immediately returned, walking between the two parked cars. According to Cruz, that's when the woman made a swinging motion on his car. He later found scratches.

After filing a report, Cruz was interviewed by Senior Officer John Jamison of the Bakersfield Police Department, who is stationed on the BC campus. Cruz identified the woman on the tape as Miller.

He also filed a grievance with the BC Human Resources Department.

Sandra Thomas, administrative secretary to Ray Quan, director of human resources, confirmed the office had received a grievance from Cruz. Quan was not available for comment.

"Unfortunately, we are not able to discuss anything regarding a grievance because of the confidentiality," said Thomas.

Cruz said he has had to change a few things in his life since the incident. He has changed his work schedule because Miller's husband is also a custodian at BC. He also said he stays away from the cafeteria and does not park behind the food service dock area.

He said he has learned a valuable lesson from all of this.

"People aren't what they seem," he said. Overall, Cruz said justice was served. His only regret was that he wishes Miller had to pay for the damages made to both vehicles. She was only held accountable for the damages caught on tape, he said.

As part of Miller's no-contest agreement, she must pay restitution fees by Nov. 29, which includes a \$400 estimate on the green 1993 Toyota Camry. She will then be placed on probation for three months. If she fails to pay the fees by the deadline, she will be placed on probation for three years and charges will not be dismissed, according to court records.

A grand fiesta

Event celebrates rich cultural traditions of Mexico

BY RUDY LLAMAS
Rip staff writer

Mariachi music is something Bakersfield College student Laurel Higuera has in her blood.

"This is something I enjoy doing because it comes from the heart," said Higuera, 22, who began singing publicly three years ago.

She finished a show in front of a crowd of about 600 people Friday at the 10th annual Mariachi Night Festival at the BC Outdoor Theater to help benefit the Chicano Scholarship Program and other services.

Higuera performed the classic mariachi hit "Amor Entero" accompanied by both Mariachi San Marcos and Mariachi Alma De Mexico to close out the show.

Student Abel Nuñez-Guerrero also sang "Las Llavas De Mi Alma."

"This was our best one yet because of the turnout and crowd involvement," said Jo Ann Acosta, event coordinator.

Audience members both young and old of all races arrived either by car or bus to enjoy a night of traditional Mexican food and music.

"I love coming out and supporting Mexican music," said Lupe Jacques, 64.

"This is just what I expected," said Arthur Garcia, another attendee of the show. "The music and bands were great."

The audience saw performances by Mariachi Mestizo, Mariachi San Marcos and headliners Mariachi Alma De Mexico.

Mariachi San Marcos was later accompanied by local singer David Ojeda, 43, who sang seven songs, including "Viva Mexico."

He has performed with numerous nationally-known mariachi groups in his career.

Dancing was provided by Ballet Folklorico Huastecalli, under the direction of 20-year dance veteran Gerardo Fierro-Avila.

Even though a sound-check problem delayed the start of the show by 40 minutes, the audience yelled for an encore after the group's performance.

The performers involved the crowd by getting them clapping.

They also talked with the audience throughout the show.

Juan Gonzalez, director of Mariachi



BENIGNO PENA / THE RIP

Members of Ballet Folklorico Huastecalli wow the audience with their traditional dances Friday at the Mariachi Night Festival.

Alma De Mexico, asked the audience to help keep Mexican music alive by supporting mariachi events.

Arely Gutierrez, 14, of Mariachi Mestizo encourages people to see Mariachi music live.

"Radio isn't the same as hearing live

because you get to feel the excitement and emotions that goes through the performers as they sing the song," said Gutierrez.

The event and bands were introduced in both Spanish and English from Jose Gaspar of KBAK-TV and Arnulfo Rivas of Radio Campesina, 92.5 FM.

Transfer Day teaches students about options after BC

BY ROGER HORNBACK
Online Editor

At least 50 representatives from several universities came to Bakersfield College on Sept. 10 to talk to students who might be interested in transferring to a four-year college to further their education.

Students wanting to transfer learned about admission requirements, financial aid, housing and other useful information they will

need to make the transition.

"I want to transfer because I want my master's degree, I want to be a teacher," said BC student Audra Austin. "This gives us a chance to explore all the different universities."

Transfer Day is an annual event which brings representatives from CSUs and UCs to campus, as well as technical institutes and private colleges.

"This is a really good area for us, the students are really prepared here," said Rick

Chacon, a counselor from Fresno State University. "Transferring could be difficult so it's good to have counselors to help students out."

Many students said they liked meeting with the representatives in person because it gave them a better understanding of which schools would be the best for them.

"Some schools I've never heard of, so it's good to meet them in person instead of looking them up on the Internet," said Chris Anfosso, who wants to major in nutrition.

Want to transfer?

For more information, call Transfer Services Coordinator Vikten Mason at 385-4288, drop by the Transfer Services office in Student Services 73 or visit its Web site at www.bakersfieldcollege.edu/transfer. The site contains links to several resources for students wanting to transfer to a four-year college or university.

Marine claims some players lack integrity

I find it refreshing that after a 20-year hiatus from college campus life, not much has changed. I retired from the Marine Corps about a year ago. I am completing my last three-unit math requirement here at BC so I can graduate from the University of Maryland (with honors).

The first day of school the bookstore lines are long, unless of course you play football. Then like other rules on campus, they obviously don't apply. I witnessed numerous players jump the line since their buddy was "holding their spot" in line.

Funny how those who walked by did not know their buddy was holding the place until the ones in line would call out to them and tell them to come over and get into line.

Integrity is a hallmark of all Marines. It is the integrity of each Marine (i.e., team member) that ensures missions are accomplished with the absolute minimal injury or death to other Marines.

While waiting in line at the bookstore, the actions of some players showed me that some football players lack the necessary integrity to represent the college with class.

At first I was confused, but when it became public that the football program was recently placed on two-years probation for integrity violations (i.e., holding illegal practices during the off-season) it became crystal clear.

Integrity begins at the top and clearly the football program lacks it from top to bottom. Rest assured though, until integrity standards are maintained, regardless of the tradition of the BC program, scores such as the opening game humiliation will make me smile.

Brad E. Sherlock
USMC, retired

Ethnic courses fail in unifying cultures

I am writing in response to the story of the students protesting the lack of classes that cover the background and history of their culture. It really bothered me as I watched the news story. I can't help but wonder why? Why if they want there to be a special curriculum for "their" background, history, achievements, why isn't there to be a "white" curriculum?

To me a person isn't their color, race or religion. There can be great people and jerks in any walk of life. It is the person themselves that matter. The now, Pigment doesn't make the person; we all have skin, bones and innards.

Dr. Seuss covered it pretty well with the sneeches and their stars. If people get so caught up with who's different, who's better, nothing will get done.

Do these students have so much extra time and money for more classes? I know I don't. If people spent more time and effort trying to improve NOW instead of worrying about things from the past that can't be changed I feel things could be better.

What really bothers me is whenever a group comes up with an idea like this, it seems like they are whining. I don't feel breaking apart cultures will bring people together but widen the gulf. My people this, and our people did that, and those people did this does not sound like people who want to find unity or peace.

I feel the world as a whole needs to think of all humankind as a whole with some beautiful differences.

Judy Cleghorn
Lake of the Woods

Write a letter
There should be no more than 300 words on each subject to editing for space. Grammar and spelling counts. Drop them off at the Rip or e-mail them to: rip@therip.com. They must include a return address with zip code.



GERARDO DELGADILLO / THE RIP

Good Ol' Boys

It's time for the Masters tournament to include women golfers

BY JENNIFER HUBBELL
Rip staff writer

The Augusta National Golf Club acts like a bunch of boys who have built a fort with a sign on the ladder saying, "No Girls Allowed." It's time to bring the club, and the Masters, into the 21st century.

The club, which allows women to play as guests on their courses but will not let them become members, won't allow female golfers to compete in the Masters.

William "Hootie" Johnson, ANGC chairman, has decided that he does not want to get his sponsors involved in the dispute so he has dropped them from the tournament, according to an Associated Press article. But was he looking out for the sponsors' reputations or is he just protecting himself?

It is as if he is just trying to drop them before Martha Burke, the head of the National Council of Women's Organizations, persuades the sponsors to discontinue their support of the golf club. The NCWO has around 6,000 members and represents close to 160 different women's organizations.

The Masters Golf Tournament, held annually at the Augusta National Golf Club facilities, is recognized as an official event of the PGA Tour. This event is not scheduled to take place until April of next year, but the way things are going there might not be an event.

It is very likely that unless these men open their calendars and realize what times we are living in,

there might be enough opposition to keep the tournament from happening. I don't think Johnson realizes the power and loyalty of women from all different walks of life in a situation which questions their equality to men.

Along with contacting the sponsors of the tournament to suggest that they withdraw their support, Burke also has contacted CBS in an attempt to get the network to not cover the Masters unless the club agrees to allow women to join and compete. CBS has not given a clear answer on this.

It seems as though nobody wants to touch this issue except for Johnson. He is the only one confident enough, or possibly foolish enough, to voice his beliefs.

While he is completely entitled to his opinion, it's a completely different issue when those beliefs hinder the opportunity and success of a whole group of people.

This is America, people, where "all men are created equal." I thought we had gotten past the idea that this ideal only referred to the Protestant white males of the country. It wasn't until 12 years ago that the ANGC allowed African Americans to become members.

Male athletes should not be threatened by female athletes, so why not allow someone with the same sports interests to join the club, unless men are afraid that women are going to show them up. It's absolutely amazing how many grown men simply need to grow up.



GERARDO DELGADILLO / THE RIP

Budget cuts limit classes, hurt students

It's been said that money is the root of all evil. But when it comes to the state budget, legislators who can't make timely decisions are the root of a problem that affects everyone.

Because of the state budget crisis, numerous classes in Bakersfield College's curriculum have been canceled. These were classes that were full. They did not lack enrollment, instructors or student interest.

These were subjects that were dropped because of a budget shortfall. As far as students are concerned, there are few greater evils.

Those unfortunate souls who are only a semester or two away from graduating feel the biggest pinch.

They have to readjust not only school schedules, but also possibly employment availability, creating just another unnecessary headache on top of the stress of college itself.

Some employers may not be sympathetic to having to readjust schedules to accommodate students, especially if they are new employees.

There is plenty of blame to go around. The easiest targets are school administrators.

You must start at the top. Elected government officials, who have to decide how state budget money is going to be spent, must be held accountable for such financial shortcomings that result in these types of problems.

Sure it's a tough and thankless job, but they signed up for it.

What good is it to have someone earning taxpayers' money in salary over an elected term when they don't solve these budget problems?

Budgets are routinely passed late year after year, with no direct consequences to the guilty parties. This year's budget was passed 60 days late.

We would no longer be students if we told our professors we were going to start turning in assignments 60 days late.

The consequences of budget shortfalls are falling into the laps of students.

To prevent more cutting of classes, students must demand that their voices be heard, even if they have to scream it from the classroom.

BY BEN OLIVER
Rip staff writer

God's Place

Local cafe serves slice of religion along with entertainment.

BY BEN OLIVER
Rip staff writer

The Rev. Ron Vietti imagined a place where Christians could go to feel relaxed without the pressures of a church, escape the negative influences of the outside world and get a good sandwich. But for years his dream never became a reality.

That was until three years ago when the Valley Bible Fellowship's senior pastor's idea for such a cafe started to become realized. A building was found downtown. After two months of fund-raising, the church purchased the building to open Station 3:16.

Located on 18th and O streets, Station 3:16 offers a friendly environment where anyone can see local bands every Friday night, be part of worship services and buy food and coffee at cheap enough prices to please the typical college student.

The vision behind it was to create a place that was a source of entertainment for 18- to 25-year-olds. According to Pastor Jim Crews, executive director of Station 3:16, 70 percent of all high school youths who graduate stop attending church regularly, and Station 3:16 can be used to keep people plugged into their churches.

The cafe is now funded by 30 churches. "It's a positive atmosphere. Everyone's welcome here, everyone is open, and no one gets looked at funny," said Leah Duffenbaugh, who visits the cafe at least once a week.

The cafe offers concerts, worship services, affordable food and open mic night.

Concerts are held every Friday night. The bands range from local bands like Crimson Stained Nails, to more well-known bands in Christian circles like Doggwood or Squad 5-0.

"It's much safer, there's no alcohol or drugs. We profess the name of the Lord Jesus Christ," said Jake Maggard, who leads prayer and introduces the bands on Friday night.

According to Maggard, the concerts, like the worship services, do a lot of good for the lives of visitors. He said that one night, one person accepted Christianity, and 15 people who had walked away from their faith returned.

An open mic night is offered on Sundays. Visitors are welcome to do anything from reading their own



Jared Cronk performs at Station 3:16 in downtown Bakersfield recently.

TAMI OLIVARES / THE RIP

poetry, to "yodel for God," as Crews puts it.

There are also plans in the works for a "Sumo Sunday," to be held every third Sunday of the month, where visitors will be welcomed to put on Sumo suits and face

others in matches.

The cafe also attracts young people for other reasons.

"I don't want to give this the stigma of being a hook-up spot," said Crews. "But Station 3:16 is a good place to meet mem-

bers of the opposite sex of the same faith. In fact I know a couple who met at Station 3:16, and I think they're getting married soon."

Station 3:16 is open daily to the public.

"In an environment like this, you can tell God's here," says Duffenbaugh.

'Stealing Harvard' is dumb fun

BY BEN OLIVER
Rip staff writer

"Stealing Harvard," the newest of Tom Green's attempts at making a great movie, is a bit of a departure from his previous efforts.

That is to say, it's good. The movie is seen through the eyes of John Plummer (Jason Lee).

He has it all: a good job at Hospital, a store that sells hospital equipment for the home, a girlfriend, Elaine (Leslie Mann), who has a strange lovelinking habit, and a future father-in-law (Denis Farina), who at least pretends to approve of him.

All this changes when his niece is accepted into Harvard. Years earlier, he had told her that he would pay for her college if she got in, so now Jason is left with the dilemma of whether to spend the money on his wedding or his niece's education.

Enter Tom Green's character, Duff, a "gardener" who creates the same kind of "art" with people's yards as the mother in "Beetlejuice" does with sculpture. With Duff's knowledge of ways to earn a quick buck, John and Duff go on a series of exploits to raise the money.

Possibly the funniest scene in the movie is when they rob a liquor store. They fight over possible aliases and attempt to rob the store with painted toy guns.

What follows is a series of schemes and incidents that will keep the typical Tom Green laughing. It also includes a surprise ending that alone makes the film worth seeing.

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GADE FEEDS

What's a way BC could save money other than cutting classes?

Oscar Pulido, Sociology: "Clean up our own mess so we can hire less maintenance."	Kristal Asuncion, Administration of Justice: "Close campus earlier to save energy."	Allan Esgula, Correctional Administration: "They should have not spent so much money on that pool."	Lajarvis Nelson, Physical Education: "Cut back on sports, give funding to classes."	Steven Gutierrez, Biology: "Cut back on classes that aren't a requirement for graduation."

'GADE NEWSLINE

Women golfers place second in meet
In the third Western State Conference mini-meet of the year, the Bakersfield women's golf team placed second for the third consecutive week. The College of the Canyons took first place, also for the third week in a row, according to the BC Athletics Department. Gloria Wright, the top BC finisher, scored 11 over par, 84, to place sixth overall.

ASBC seeks vice president of finance
The Associated Students of Bakersfield College needs a vice president of finance. The requirements include a GPA of 2.4. Students must be enrolled in nine units and contribute 12 hours weekly, including one hour daily minimum. Those interested should stop by the ASBC office in Campus Center.

Last day to withdraw without 'W' nears
The last day to withdraw from a semester length class without receiving a "W" grade is Sept. 27. In courses other than semester length, the Admissions office or the instructor should be consulted about withdrawal dates.

Leukemia fund-raiser set for Saturday
The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society is having its first Annual Light The Night Walk 7 p.m. Saturday at the Marketplace. Registration is from 5 to 7 p.m. BC teams and individuals are welcome. For information, visit www.lightthenight.org or call (800) 960-2022.

Kern Shakespeare Festival begins in October
The 18th annual Kern Shakespeare Festival, "Shakespeare Under The Stars," is coming in October. "Titus Andronicus," directed by Bob Kempf, is playing Oct. 2, 4, 10, 12, 16 and 18. "The Merry Wives of Windsor," directed by Kimberly M. Chin, is playing Oct. 3, 5, 9, 11, 17 and 19. Tickets are available at the BC box office, 395-4326. General admission is \$8, with students and seniors \$5. All shows begin promptly at 8 p.m. No children under 6 are allowed. —Compiled by Campus Editor Tracy Hostmyer



PHOTO COURTESY OF TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX
Jesse Bradford discovers Erika Christensen has different ideas about relationships.

'Swimfan' dives into obsession

BY KIMI RAMOS
Rip staff writer

"Swimfan," directed by John Polson, surprisingly brings forth a good drama for teens seeking some crazy excitement in a movie. The film stars Erika Christensen of "Traffic" and Jesse Bradford from "Clockstoppers." When the new girl at school, Madison (Christensen) falls for the champion swimmer on the high school team, Ben (Bradford), things seem innocent enough at first. While Ben is taken, he has a one-night stand with the impulsive, quirky Madison, who becomes obsessive and violent when her feelings are not reciprocated. Teens can relate to the reality of the "drama life" in high school. Heartache and the pressures of going away for college also are addressed. Despite the unrealistic obstacles that occur throughout the movie, this teen "Basic Instinct" gives the audience the understanding of the fine line between love and obsession. "Swimfan" is something you'd definitely would want to plunge into.

MOVIE MINUTE

CRIME BEAT

Student reports indecent exposure

A man allegedly exposed himself to a female student while she was walking near the gym on Sept. 6, according to Detective Mary DeGeare of the Bakersfield Police Department. The victim stated she was walking north of the east entrance of the gym when she looked through the glass

doors and saw a naked man touching himself while sitting in a chair. She described the man as a white male with blonde hair who appeared to be about 20.

Security officer accused of Weill fan theft

A Bakersfield College security officer was arrested for allegedly stealing fans this summer from the Weill Institute, according to the BPD. John Steven Arias, 32, was arrested in the case. At the time, Arias was a security officer for the col-

lege, but according to DeGeare, he no longer works for BC. Officers found two pedestal fans from the Weill Institute at his home and charged him with petty theft, she said.

Students report car break-ins

Two unrelated cases of vehicle burglary in the southwest lot occurred Sept. 9. Both students' cars had shattered windows with CD players and various CDs stolen. —Compiled by staff writer Kimi Ramos

BC stumbles as Falcons soar

Renegades will face West Hills Saturday in away game.

BY LEANNE CAVE
Rip staff writer

After a 35-0 clanging by the Cerritos Falcons in the season home opener Sept. 14, the Bakersfield College Renegades will travel to Coalinga Saturday and attempt to put the pieces back together against the Falcons of West Hills College. This will be a test to see just how much ability the 2002 BC football team possesses. "We are a very young team," head coach Dallas Grider said. "We've got to take the positive aspects from the game and move on." The 'Gades were totally beaten in every phase of the game by the well-balanced Falcons on their home field. For the 4,698 fans that anticipated the 'Gades to come out clicking on all cylinders, the game was unusual. It was like a flat tire, a total blowout.



CHRIS KEELER/THE RIP
BC's Nathan Baker, No. 5, avoids a sack by Cerritos linebacker Ariel Cowen.

"This may be the best Cerritos team in the last 20 years," Grider said. "We won't schedule them again this season," he added jokingly. For Cerritos, it was total domination right from the start as it took an early 14-0 first quarter lead and never looked back. The first score of the game was an impressive 50-yard touchdown run by Cerritos running back Jermaine Whitten who scampered down the sideline untouched by the defenders. And it didn't get any better for BC, as Falcon quarterback Glenn DeBerg threw a perfect 48-yard touchdown strike to wide receiver Andrew Harris for the second score of the first quarter. The Falcons executed their offensive game plan well in the first half, lighting up the visitor's side of the scoreboard two more times and led 28-0 at the half. "Bakersfield College is a first-class program," said Cerritos head coach Frank Mazzotta. "We were a little surprised. We just came out early and had them on their heels." —Frank Mazzotta, Cerritos football head coach

It was the first collegiate start for George Valos, starting quarterback for the 'Gades, since 1998, when he played for Azusa Pacific University. "It felt good to be back on the field," Valos said. "It took a little while to get things going, we just didn't get the opportunities to score. They were a very good team." The Falcon offense did only manage seven more points in the third quarter, but the 35-0 score was more than the 'Gades could overcome. If there was any bright spot for BC, it was exciting kickoff returns by freshman Ismael Arrenaviz. The Foothill High School graduate put up a 39.25-yard average on his returns and looks promising as a receiver as well. Defensively for the 'Gades, Kyle Hager, Daniel Johnson, Josh Saso and Joe Smith led the way making some defensive plays. "Cerritos is a good team," Hager said. "The first game is always hard and we weren't together as a team. We played like we weren't all on the same page. This game against West Hills will be better for us."



CHRIS KEELER/THE RIP
Tony Morland, top, puts a hold on Golden West wrestler Dennis Balough in the 174-pound weight class during the Bakersfield Duals Saturday.

Wrestlers open with style

'Gades start strong as team wins all three of its matches.

BY DEMETHRISIS BLACKMON
Sports Editor

The Bakersfield College wrestling team opened the 2002 season at the Gil Bishop Sports Center and made the most of its home mat advantage. BC, Santa Ana College, Mount San Antonio College, Golden West College, Modesto College, Cypress College and Cuesta College competed at the Bakersfield Duals on Saturday. The 'Gades went undefeated in

their three matches and five of the team's wrestlers did not lose a match. In its first match against Santa Ana College, BC scored a 34-15 victory. BC's 125-pound Jason Moreno defeated Joel Sanchez 4-2. Renegade Eric Hopkins, 141 pounds, and Marcos Austin, 149 pounds, both won their matches by decision. Hopkins scored a major decision against Juan Pacho 12-3 and Austin scored a 4-3 victory over Ben Barajas. Karra Kalivas did not wrestle against Santa Ana but was able to defeat his two opponents from Mount San Antonio and Golden West in the 165-pound weight class. Hopkins, 174-pound Tony Morland and 184-pound Paul Gutierrez, along with Moreno, each defeated their opponents from

Mount San Antonio, Santa Ana and Golden West. Todd Guevara lost to Juan Sima from Santa Ana in his first match 2-1 but was able to score a major decision against his Mount San Antonio opponent and a technical fall against Golden West. As a team, the 'Gades defeated Mount San Antonio 37-9 and beat Golden West 29-7. Head coach Bill Kalivas said the team is still trying to figure out who will be wrestling in what weight class during the season and that he was pleased with the results of the meet. The 'Gades will compete in the all day Sacramento City Tournament Sept. 28. They will participate in the all day Modesto Tournament Oct. 5 before returning home Oct. 11 to wrestle against West Valley at 6 p.m.

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Top left: Renegade Julie Chapman falls against Santa Barbara forward Kelly Ulm during a recent match held at BC.

Top right: BC's Mary Ellen Arraztoa blocks a goal attempt. Santa Barbara won the match 2-1. The Renegades' record is 4-3-1 in non-conference play.

Left: Stephanie Vejar kicks to pass the ball to her team. BC faces Ventura on Saturday at Ventura. The team will play Cuesta at BC on Tuesday, ending its non-conference games.

Photos By
Chris Keeler/The Rip

Team readies for conference play

BY DEMETHRASIS
BLACKMON
Sports Editor

With the heat of the summer sun fading to fall, the Bakersfield College soccer team's schedule is beginning to heat up.

The team will finish off its non-conference schedule with a game Saturday at Ventura and Tuesday against Cuesta at BC.

Against Allan Hancock on Tuesday, the 'Gades played to a first half tie before being called for a foul in the box midway through the second half. Allan Hancock was able to score on

the penalty kick and hold off the 'Gades 1-0, even though BC outshot Hancock 23-5.

"Soccer is just that way sometimes," said BC head coach Scott Dameron after the match.

Dameron had his team ready to play early in the season. The first game was during the first week of the school year.

On Aug. 27 the team started the season against Antelope Valley. Salvina Garcia, Shona Amos found the back of the net in the second half and also had two assists. Mary Ellen Arraztoa had five saves as the 'Gades won 4-0.

The 'Gades followed two losses by

posting back-to-back shutouts against Victor Valley on Sept. 4 and L.A. Mission on Sept. 6. Jennifer Elliott began the scoring against Victor Valley with a corner kick in the first half. Amos added a goal in each half and the final score was 3-0.

"From the first week until now, we are playing much better soccer," Dameron said.

The team will start its league season Sept. 27 at L.A. Pierce before playing at home Oct. 1 against L.A. Valley. These games are scheduled to begin at 4 p.m.

"That's all we're trying to do right now is just get ready for conference," Dameron said.

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Art and Culture

Exhibit at BC gallery showcases works of Mexican folk art.

Features, Page 3

No Cheer Here

Football games just aren't the same without cheerleaders to rally the fans and players.

Sports, Page 5



Minors Should Be Spared

Rehabilitation, not the death penalty, is the best solution for children who kill.

Opinion, Page 2



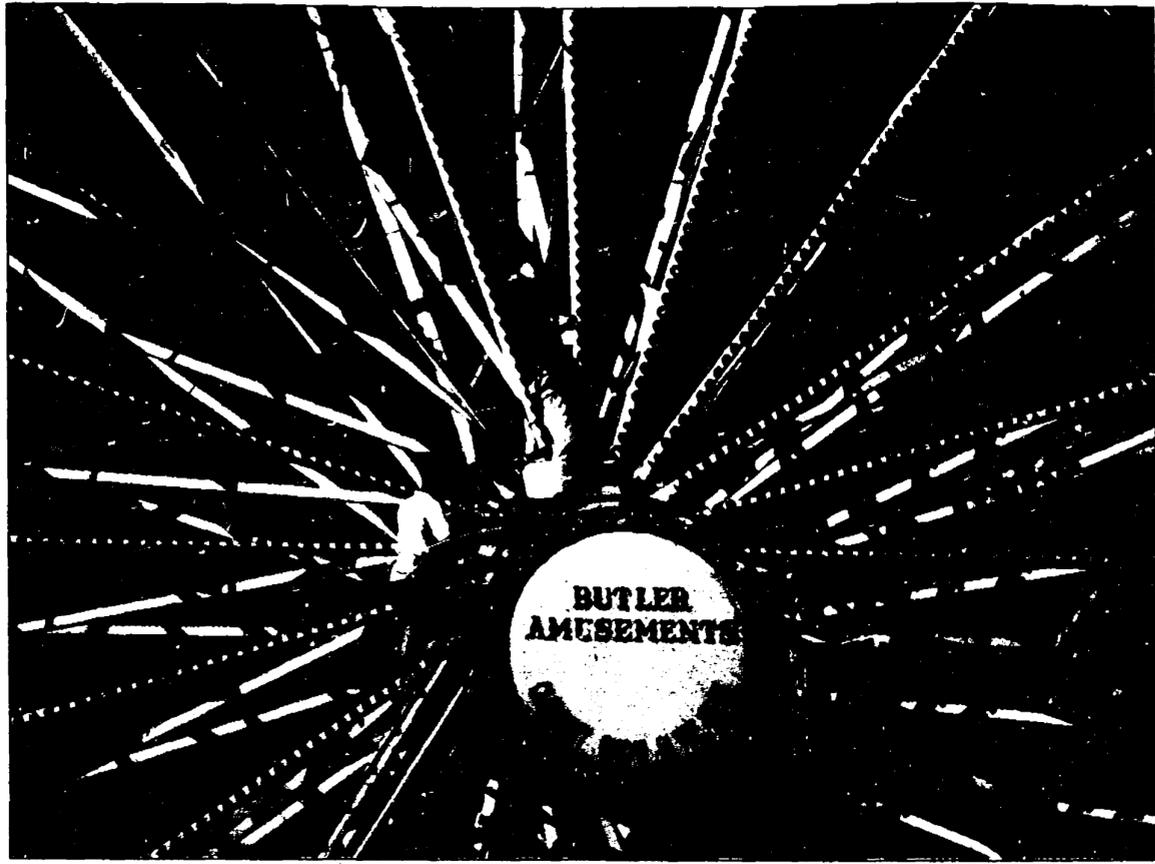
BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE

THE RENEGADE RIP

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JOHN VODOPLJA / THE RIP

Big wheels keep on turnin'

Two Butler Amusements employees replace light bulbs on the arms of the Eagle 16 Ferris wheel at the Kern County Fairgrounds Sunday. The fair opened Wednesday and runs through Oct. 6. See additional photos, Page 6.

Packing heat in dangerous skies

Campus reacts to issue of arming pilots with guns amid terror-stricken times

BY JARROD M. GRAHAM
Editor in Chief

Bakersfield College political science professor Steve Holmes has no objections to airline pilots being granted the ability to defend themselves and their passengers against hijackers, but he's uncertain about the best way to do it.

"I would have no problem with pilots having some ability to subdue passengers that want to disrupt the flight," he said. "Whether or not a gun is the appropriate mechanism, I'm not positive."

That is one view offered in a debate that is making the rounds through the nation's capital.

Earlier this month, the U.S. Senate approved a bill sponsored by Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., and Bob Smith, R-N.H., that would institute a voluntary training program for airline pilots and other flight crew members in the use of firearms and self-defense techniques, according to a CBSNews.com report. The House of Representatives passed a similar bill in July.

Holmes suggested alternatives, such as stun guns or guns that use rubber bullets, but said that in the event of a suicide mission like the Sept. 11 attacks, a weapon that uses live ammunition may be the only solution.

"In those cases where human lives might have to be sacrificed, innocent people, a gun undoubtedly might be the best answer for putting an end to that terrorist act," he said.

Marc Mallon, a computer information systems major, said he doesn't see a problem with arming pilots, considering many of them already have some military training.

"I think it's a good idea ... if it makes the skies safer," he said. Fine arts major Travis Von Schrititz disagrees.

"If they're gonna go to that trouble, they should put (an armed) security guard on the plane," he said.

Kristen Scales, an engineering major, isn't opposed to the idea, but she has reservations about its effectiveness.

"Honestly, I'm not sure how much good it would do, but I guess it's just the extra peace of mind," she said.

Zack Dransoff, an English major, shares some of Scales' reservations about the idea, but said since lives are in the hands of the pilots, they should be granted the power to protect them.

"I think I'd feel safest if I had the gun. I don't know if I'd feel so much safer," he said. "One way or another, it's a dangerous situation to be in."

Airport workers, travelers share their views

BY TRACY HOSTMYER
Campus Editor

Pilots carrying guns creates a "double-edged sword" for airports, according to Ray Bishop, Kern County airports director.

While he said he personally is neutral about the idea, such proposals create challenges for airport administrators.

"It's easy to say, 'Oh, pilots with guns makes sense,' because when you get hijacked, you've got guys with guns. Easy to say. In practice it's a very difficult thing because now, what do you do with the gun when the pilot lands?"

The pilot has to leave the airplane carrying a gun and somehow not create a security problem. Bishop said during an interview at Meadows Field Monday.

"What happens when somebody bumps him on the head and steals his gun?" he asked. So what seems like a simple solution also becomes complicated with how to store pilots' guns.

"Well you have to have an armory, you have to have a lock on it. You can't just put them in the closet



JOHN VODOPLJA / THE RIP

SkyWest employee Jason McLay checks passengers' carry-on luggage at Meadows Field.

and lock the door," he said. "It's got to be fire-safe, gun-safe, all this kind of stuff and now, all of a sudden, it costs a lot of money to make all these kinds of changes. So I think you have to look at the concept and say it's not as pretty as you think it would be. It's very difficult to do."

Bishop explained that since Sept. 11, a few armed marshals have flown on airliners. In addition, security procedures at airports have increased. But airports would have to deal with storage and armory issues if pilots began carrying weapons, he said.

Others interviewed at Meadows Field also expressed concerns about the proposal.

Nick Longanecker, 66, a retired law enforcement officer, said he has mixed feelings about arming pilots.

"If a weapon goes off, it could pierce the fuselage and everybody's going to go down," he said.

Antoine Cleveland, 27, Bakersfield manager of America West Airlines, said it could create an unsafe situation if pilots were armed.

"You don't know what their (pilots') reaction will be if someone was to get on the plane," he said. "How would they shoot the gun?"

Cleveland said he would prefer pilots carry something with a "less deadly force so that everybody doesn't die." One option would be a stun gun, he said.

Perhaps pilots should carry tranquilizer guns, said David Velasco, 48, a food salesman who was distributing products at the airport gift shop.

But Maryann Salinas, 38, a GET bus driver, said they could carry guns if they could keep them in a safe spot.

"Only they have access, maybe just the pilots have the keys, that would be good," she said.

Anthony Mankins, 37, an Arcadia electrician passing through town, disagreed.

"Just because you're a good pilot doesn't mean you're a good judge of (shooting a gun)," he said.

Mankins said he has a friend who is a pilot who supports carrying guns. But he recommended that instead of guns, airlines strengthen cockpit doors, as some already are.

"They lock them more now," he said. "If they reinforced them somehow so that they couldn't easily be kicked in, then I think that would offer enough protection for the pilot."

Center meets parents' needs

BC facility provides affordable option for care of children.

BY AMBER GARCIA
Rip staff writer

Before she was able to leave her two young children at the new Child Development Center at Bakersfield College, Lisa Daniels often had to stay home and miss her classes because she didn't have any day care.

"When I first started school, I didn't have any day care that was reliable," said the 24-year-old BC student, who is also working as an intern for the center. "I didn't have anyone that I could just leave my children with. Now that I can drop them off at the same place everyday and then go to class just a minute away, it's possible for me to go to school."

According to Mary Ann Albanes, program director at the Child Development Center, many students have difficulties in finding day care and those who can't afford reliable day care probably have to miss school.

"Having the services here on campus helps facilitate one place where parents can drop off their children," Albanes said. "Parents need to know they have a safe place for their children to be and that they're going to receive good, quality care."

Albanes said there are many low-income students who bring their children to the center, and some receive aid in paying for their day care if they meet the income criteria.

Wendy Wayne, the division administrator for Child Development and Family Services, estimates the parents of 5,300 children in Bakersfield are waiting for assistance in getting child care. She said the first thing parents in need of affordable day care should do is contact the Centralized Child Care Information Services to find out about local day care and be put on the waiting list for getting help to pay for child care.

"We are working toward making the child care system in California better," Wayne said. "But the state budget is not thriving."

Wayne said she believes the number of students who are struggling to obtain child care is increasing.

"It makes it difficult for them to stay in school," she said. "Every parent wants the best for their kids, and the stress from not having quality

day care can be very detrimental." Lenora Daniels, the Child Development Center's preschool program supervisor, said it was common 10 years ago to see many parents bring their children to school with them, but that trend has greatly diminished.

"I think professors are increasingly frowning at students bringing their kids to class," she said.

On Sept. 5, the Associated Students of Bakersfield College put on a Fall Welcome dance, where a student and his sister brought a younger sibling with them.

Student Activities Director Andrew Bickers said this is the first time he's heard of students bringing children with them on campus and that while someone complained to a security guard at the dance, he received no complaints. Bickers said that what he witnessed at the portion of the dance he attended was not inappropriate.

"It was a regular dance, there weren't even that many people there," Bickers said. "I did not stand in and watch the entire dance. If there was something inappropriate going on, I did not see it."

Bickers said there may be a policy on students bringing their children with them on campus or to class, but it is not found in the school's handbook.

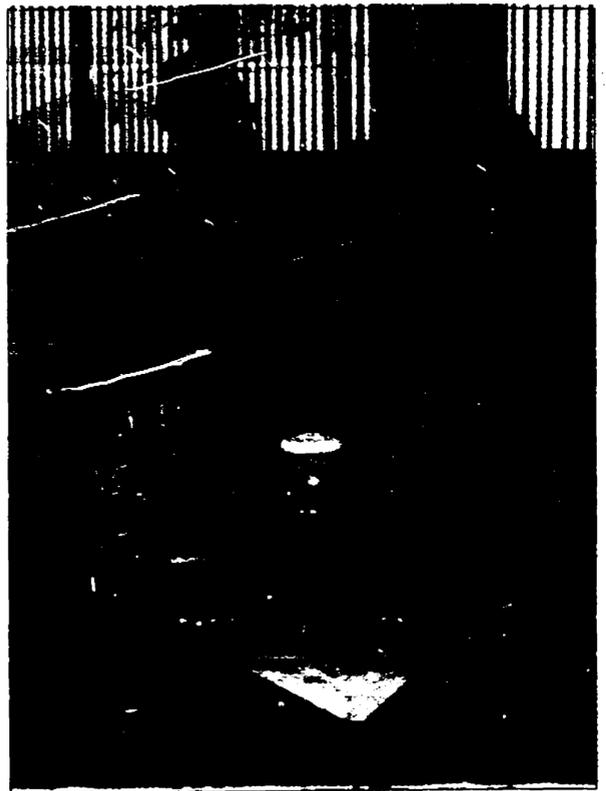
"That doesn't mean one doesn't exist," Bickers said. He added that there possibly is an unwritten law that says, "Professors basically have control of their classrooms and can do whatever they want."

Susan McQuerrey, the president of the Academic Senate, said she also was not aware of any existing policy regarding parents bringing their children to class with them.

Albanes said the first step in solving the shortage of day care is to petition the local legislatures on the need for quality child care.

"People need to know that we have legislatures who are living in the past and say, 'Well, Mom should stay at home,'" Albanes said, "when they know a high percentage of women are either single parents or in a two-parent household but still have to work to maintain a decent lifestyle."

Those interested in getting information about affordable day care can contact the Child Development Center at BC, Community Connection For Child Care at 861-5200, or the Centralized Child Care Information Services at (877) 321-3106.



ANISSA CANDELARIA / THE RIP

Children participate in activities at BC's new Child Development Center.

Student criticizes editing of her essay

Kudos to the Eclectica staff for producing another issue of collections created by Bakersfield College students. The task must seem ominous, at times, when considering the sizable body of essays, poems, short stories, plays and photographs that must be sorted, read and judged by so few.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

However, the duty should never be so burdensome that the integrity of an author's work is compromised. After two years, I finally submitted an award-winning essay that had been rewritten, revised, restructured and proof-read so many times that I no longer enjoyed reading it. I was never advised that it had been accepted for publication, but I was pleasantly surprised when I flipped through the new issue of Eclectica and noticed my essay listed in the table of contents. Imagine my disappointment, though, when I read through the published copy to see that words had been changed, sentences restructured and punctuation omitted. I can understand and sympathize with the task of typing a 2,000 word essay,

Arming pilots may create new security problems

BY JENNIFER HUBBELL Rip staff writer

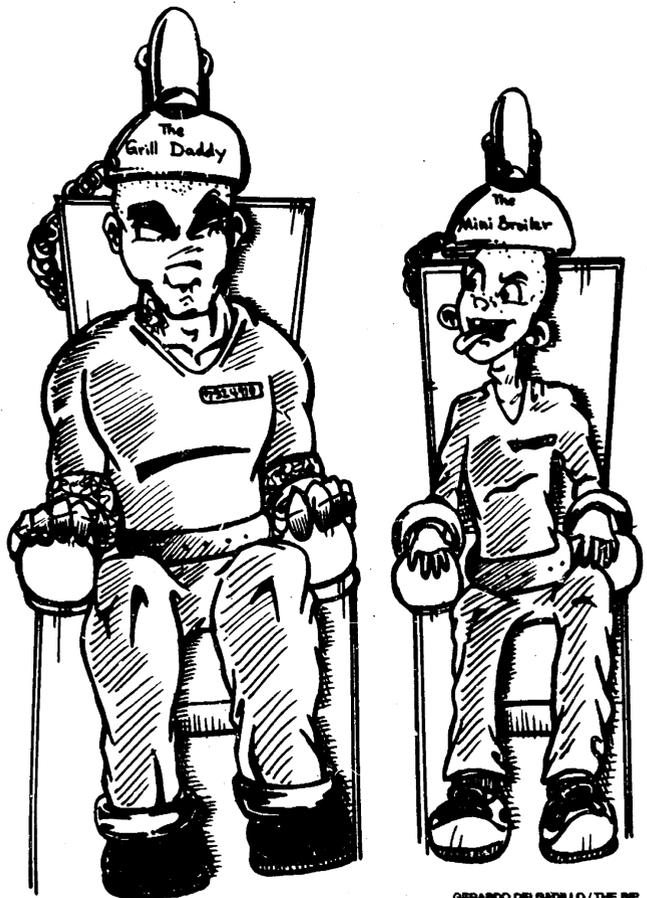
The U.S. Senate has voted for a bill that would allow pilots to be taught defense tactics that would include the possession of firearms on airplanes. Is post-Sept 11 security really worth the risk of a gun falling into the wrong hands on a flight?

There are so many things that can go wrong with having an authorized gun on board a flight. If a hijacker on a flight had a gun, then an armed pilot would double the chances of a bullet penetrating the walls of the airplane, which may cause a whole new set of problems that could surpass those of a hijacker trying to take over the plane. If firearms become standard equipment on planes, then someone

but I believe that if a person chooses to accept the job and earn the credit for being in the class, that person (or people) then has a certain responsibility to the authors to maintain the integrity of the work. One mistake could have been easily accepted, even two, but three egregious errors in the first paragraph (including changing the word "sordid" to "sorted") compromise my reputation in the craft I love most (and the six errors in paragraph two don't help, either).

In the words of Larry King, "Good writers are in the business of leaving signposts saying, 'Tour my world, see and feel it through my eyes; I am your guide.'" To this goal I aspire, producing material of which I can be proud.

Dana Martin BC Student



GERARDO DELGADILLO / THE RIP

Minors who murder should not face death penalty

BY JENNIFER HUBBELL Rip staff writer

Anyone following the local news lately has probably noticed a rash of youths committing murder.

Although it is not anyone's right to take the life of another, these children are just children and no matter how horrific their crimes are, they should not be faced with the death penalty.

One of the most horrific crimes in this county recently was the case of 17-year-old Ruben Cruz and his half sister, 12-year-old Joanna Velazquez. They allegedly beat and strangled their mother, 43-year-old Francisca Compears.

They reportedly beat her with a frying pan and then strangled her with an extension cord, because Compears would not let her children go out to a party. Cruz went as far as to start digging a grave for his mother's body in the

back yard while she was put in a storage room. Doing something as horrible as this to a parent has to be either because of mental incapacity or a lack of environmental stability.

These kids may have known what they did was wrong when they did it. That is the problem with a lot of criminals. They can distinguish the difference between right and wrong, but they don't do the right thing. This is where rehabilitation comes in.

Today, there are laws protecting those under the age of 18 from the death penalty in California. In some states, only minors under the age of 16 are protected against the death penalty. Is that why these kids are doing things such as horrific as murdering a parent in cold blood? Do they understand that they

can only be punished to a certain extent and feel that they can get away with more in California? It is a good thing that there are laws protecting minors from the death penalty, and also that there has not been anyone under the age of 18 executed in this state.

These kids do not deserve to be killed. Two wrongs do not make a right. It would be just as wrong to kill these kids as it was for them to kill someone else. With the prison systems of today, there are many ways to rehabilitate children.

They can be helped, and with enough years of supervision, may be able to re-enter into society and become productive citizens. Why end a child's life before it has even begun? These children made terrible mistakes, but that is something that they

have to live with for the rest of their lives. It would be more of a punishment for them to have to go back out into society, where they will be watched closely by the community.

It will take them time to prove to everyone they know, and to people they don't know, that they have changed. The whole point to the judicial system is to protect the public. If someone can be successfully rehabilitated and put back into society, then that is one more productive person who is helping the community grow.

Nobody deserves to die, and it is certainly not right to take one life in place of another. It is punishment enough for these youths, and anyone else facing the death penalty, to have to live with their decisions for the rest of their lives, and to face the shame they have created for themselves and their families.



GERARDO DELGADILLO / THE RIP

THE RENEGADE RIP... Winner of the 1997 JACC Pacemaker Award... Editor in Chief: Jarrod M. Graham... Opinion Editor: Archer Sierra... Features Editor: Chris Keeler... Sports Editor: Lemethrasia Blackmon... Campus Editor: Tracy Hostmyer... Online Editor: Roger Hornbeck... Photo Editor: John Vodopija... Reporters: Leanne Cave, Amber Garcia, Rudy Llamas, Loranzo Miranda, Tami Olivares, Ben Oliver... Photographers: Anissa Candelaria, Sharon Fringan, Jennifer Hubbell, Sean Lewis, Benigno Pena, Courtney Ross... Graphic Artist: Gerardo Delgadillo... Business Manager: Robin Johnson... Photo Technician: Carol Barnett... Photo Adviser: Casey Christie

Should airline pilots carry guns? Why or why not?



Jimmy Rose, Biology: "Yes. If potential terrorists could have guns then air pilots need to defend themselves with compatible counter measures." Priscilla Castro, Nursing: "Yes. In case of a crash and they survived, they'd have something to defend themselves with." Farod Allah, History: "I think they should be able to for safety reasons. Some type of weapons for protection are needed." Jelene Chappell, Music and special education: "Yes. So that they have the authority of the plane instead of being at the mercy of someone else's gun." Eric Williams, Engineering: "I don't think pilots should (carry guns) but they should have other staff that should. Pilots should be doing other things like piloting."



JENNIFER HUBBELL / THE RIP Gary Wallace serves coffee to a student during break.

Vendor brings ministry to campus

BY KIMI RAMOS Special to The Rip

Want somewhere you can find some reasonably cheap coffee on campus rather than going off campus? River Oaks Espresso offers coffee, espresso, and smoothie drinks along with blended drinks to the student body. In addition, the business offers a Christian presence through prayer and a desire to serve. Located in the back of the cafeteria, the business has been operated by Gary Wallace, 53, since last January.

River Oaks Espresso is a sole proprietorship with proceeds going to The River Oaks Church, located at 5500 Olive Drive. A fairly new church, with only 100 members. With the help of Pastor Terry Barnett, the espresso stand was at first just an idea about how to teach college kids about God.

"The college has been very gracious to allow us to be there. I'm very excited about the ministry," Barnett said.

Wallace said that one way to get out and let people hear about the church is to go beyond church walls and be involved where people live.

He has pictures of Jesus Christ and sometimes the Bible on hand at the stand. There won't be any prayers or psalms read, just a short talk about the Lord if a customer is interested. "It's been an awesome experience," Wallace said about working at the stand. "I've just had a great time. The kids have really accepted me."

He hasn't had any problems with the students, although he might ask about a person's religion before he starts to chat. "I've just had so much support from my customers," Wallace stated. "The hot chocolate smoothies are my favorite," said Adam Bruce, 28, a computer science major.

I like it because it's cheaper than Supreme Bean or Starbucks. I go for the iced cappuccino," said Ana Diaz, 31, who is majoring in teaching.

Brook Malley, 21, a political science major, said she only goes to the stand because, "I don't have time to go to somewhere else. It's convenient. Yesterday, I kept yawning in class, so I needed coffee."

The stand is open from 7 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. For more information log on to www.riveroaksonline.com.



PHOTOS BY BENIGNO PENA / THE RIP Top: A skeleton candlestick holder from the Metepec Federal District in Mexico on display at the Bakersfield College Library until Oct. 25

Left: Painted pottery horses from the Metepec Federal District.

Gallery features cultural art

BY BEN OLIVER Rip staff writer

As you enter the May Louise Jones Gallery, you are greeted by a family of skeletons, each dressed as they did in life.

You round a corner and you see strange animals, like a blue sloth, and an even stranger creature with wheels. As you pass, you catch sight of a small metallic monster, sitting on a small pedestal in the center of the floor.

Americans might be taken aback by these creatures, maybe even scared. These art pieces aren't like the pictures of "The Last Supper," or an Italian woman with a strange but familiar smile that we were raised to believe is art. Some people might avoid it all together. However, they'd be missing out on an opportunity to experience the Mexican culture.

The gallery is featuring "Great Masters of Mexican Folk Art," featuring art pieces from all over Mexico. Open hours are Monday through Thursday from noon to 8 p.m. and Saturday from noon to 4 p.m.

The exhibit offers a large variety of Mexican folk art. Included in the gallery are wire Días de los Muertos skeletons, ceramic animals, tribal masks, tin Christmas decorations, authentic Mexican dress and a host of unusual creatures.

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'GADE NEWSLINE

BC president announces open meetings
Open meetings with BC President Dr. Sandra Serrano are scheduled for: Oct. 21 from noon to 1:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room and Oct. 19 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in the Finlison Conference Center.
Everyone on campus is invited to present suggestions, address concerns and visit. Beverages will be served. For more information, contact Debbie Spohn at 395-4211.

Club offers retreat in Catalina
InterVarsity Christian Fellowship will conduct a spiritual retreat Oct. 11 to 13 at Catalina Island. There will be volleyball, snorkeling and hiking available. This year's focus will be on listening to God through prayer.
The cost is about \$95 and a \$35 deposit is due as soon as possible. Contact Joseph Litto at 833-9972.

BC presents 'Shakespeare Under The Stars'
The 18th annual Kern Shakespeare Festival, "Shakespeare Under The Stars," starts soon. On Oct. 2, 4, 10, 12, 16 and 18 "Titus Andronicus," directed by Bob Kempf, will be performed.
On Oct. 3, 5, 9, 11, 17 and 19 "The Merry Wives of Windsor," directed by Kimberly M. Chin will be presented.
General admission is \$8, students and seniors \$5. Tickets are available at the BC Box Office, 395-4326. All shows begin promptly at 8 p.m. No children under 6 are allowed.

Public invited to walk for peace at park
A peace walk will be held Saturday at 10 a.m. near 18th and Oak at Jastro Park.
There is no cost and BC students are invited to participate. Bring a sack lunch or an extra sandwich to share. The focus will be on imagining peace for the community and the world. Any questions, contact Kim Schaefer at 864-1968.

—Compiled by Campus Editor Tracy Hostmyer



ROGER HORNBACK / THE RIP

Season Tickets

Sgt. Chris Counts of Bakersfield College security gives a student's vehicle a parking ticket for not having a permit Wednesday afternoon in the southwest lot. Students who park without a permit and are caught by campus security will have to pay a \$25 fine.

CRIME BEAT

Security assists ill students
Two Bakersfield College students experienced seizures within 20 minutes of each other in unrelated medical situations.
A male student had a seizure Monday at 9:20 a.m. in the Language Arts building. First aid was administered. A female student was taken to Kern Medical Center after having a seizure in the Business Education building at 9:40 a.m., according to campus security.

Ford Ranger is broken into
A Ford Ranger was broken into between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Tuesday on campus. Someone broke a window and stole a CD player, subwoofers, 48 CDs and golf clubs, said the Bakersfield Police Department.

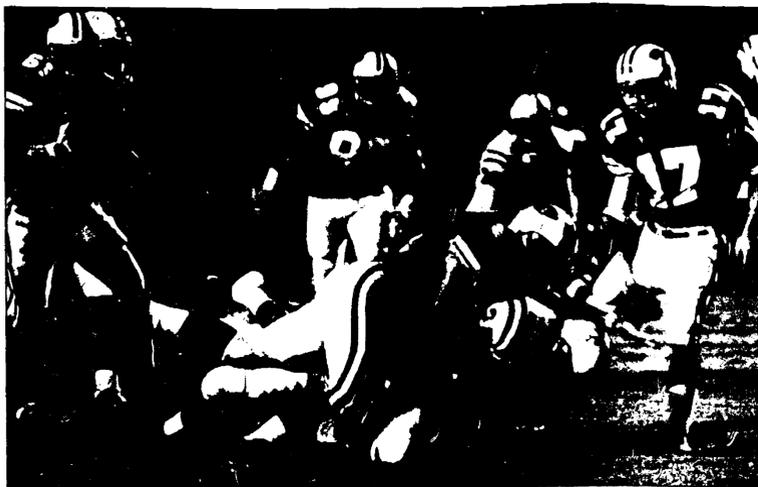
—Compiled by Campus Editor Tracy Hostmyer

CORRECTIONS

A story about BC's new child care center in the Sept. 13 edition stated that the cost per day is around \$28. That is the cost for fee-paying parents, said Denise Ehret, BC child care registrar. If parents meet income eligibility requirements, the cost is free.

In the Sept. 20 edition, a story mistakenly stated that BC security guard John Seven Arias no longer was employed after being accused of stealing fans from the Well Institute. Arias continues to work at BC, according to Sharon Miller in Human Resources. The Rip staff regrets the errors and any inconvenience they may have caused.

BC's Robert Haude, No. 34, makes a tackle on Cerritos running back Carlos Velasquez, No. 25, at Memorial Stadium on Sept. 14. The 'Gades will play Moorpark at home on Saturday. Kickoff is scheduled for 7 p.m.



JOHN VODOPIJA / THE RIP

'Gades set to battle Moorpark

BY LEANNE GAVE
Rip staff writer

The Bakersfield College Renegades will host Moorpark College on Saturday after two consecutive weeks of playing the pesky Falcons of Cerritos and West Hills.

The 'Gades suffered a 35-0 home loss to Cerritos but managed to escape with a 28-21 victory over West Hills on the road to improve to 1-1.

Even though the 'Gades are a young team, the defense stepped up when it had to in the waning minutes. They stopped a West Hills' drive that could have tied the game and prevented the first win of the 2002 season.

The Falcons proved that they could score as they put up 21 points in the first three quarters of the contest.

Defensive coach Jeff Chudy put things in perspective for his young defense.

"We're kind of like the no-name defense of the 1972 Miami Dolphins," he said. "We have a lot of young players that are playing together for the first time (freshmen players). We have got to tackle better and eliminate the big play. We were very fortunate that we came away with the win. We made the plays we had to in the end."

The offense may have been just what the defense needed, time to rest. "We were happy that the offense kept the drives going and kept the defense off the field," Garrett Harker, middle linebacker, said. "It made the defense's job easier."

Harker was referring to the fact that the offense put up a balanced scoring attack.

The 'Gades scored on three

touchdown strikes through the air and showed that BC could produce some running game as well.

Running back Leon Thomas scored on a one-yard run in the first four minutes of the game to take the opening lead.

The quarterback duo of George Valos and Nathan Baker proved that opposing defenses can expect some lightning strikes as they combined for 13 completions for 267 yards and three touchdowns.

In the third quarter, when Valos was blindsided and knocked out of the game, Baker entered and picked up where Valos left off as he threw the go ahead TD score to Ismael Arrenaviz to put the 'Gades up for good.

Arrenaviz continues to dazzle the crowd with his speed as he outraced the Falcon defenders three times to catch touchdown strikes of 27, 66

and 73 yards. The freshman receiver caught four passes for 174 yards for the game.

The 73-yard touchdown was a timely come from behind score when it counted the most.

West Hills had just tied the game 21-21 in the fourth quarter when lightning struck the Falcons.

"There aren't many players with that kind of speed and quickness," Head coach Dallas Grider said.

Another bright spot was the kicking of freshman Chris White of East High.

After missing extra points on the first three scores, the freshman stepped in and nailed a 40-yard field goal to make the score 21-14.

It was an overall good team effort by a very young BC team.

The Renegades will be tested again on Saturday when they face Moorpark at 7 p.m.

Where have all the cheerleaders gone?

BY LEANNE GAVE
Rip staff writer

Two things are scarce at Bakersfield College this year, parking spaces and cheerleaders.

FIRST PERSON

Why are there only six cheerleaders when the enrollment at BC is approximately 15,000 students? And why aren't there male cheerleaders?

At the BC-Cerritos game, Cerritos College showed up with a Falcon army. A total of 55 men and women cheerleaders wearing blue and white trimmed in gold uniforms made their presence known. They didn't even need a

band or fans. They were enough to pump up their team. I was even getting into the Falcon spirit.

Well, there may be several reasons to why the 'Gades have only six cheerleaders.

According to Andrew Bickers, director of student activities, nobody tries out.

"It's open to all students, male and female and very few try out," Bickers said. "No one seems interested and not one male showed up."

This is amazing to me. Where is school pride and spirit these days?

Cheerleader coach Marvin Ramey said that there are up to 20 spaces for male and female students if they want to try out.

Ramey added that if men would try out for the team, the squad could do more stunts where strength is needed.

Another reason nobody tries out may be because of cost since cheerleaders pay for uniforms.

However, Bickers said that fund-raising activities can help with costs.

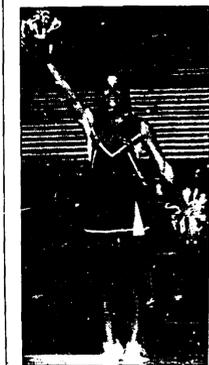
Time may be the ultimate reason. Yes, practice is required, 14 hours a week, Ramey said.

For this year's squad, the practice has paid off. The squad took a superior rating at the Santa Barbara United Spirit Association Camp.

It also participates in community services such as elementary school cheer clinics.

I would like to see more spirit at BC. It starts with you and a little school pride. It is fun to go to Homecoming because former cheerleaders are invited back. The pride and spirit flows because of the alumni.

Wouldn't it be nice if somebody was interested in cheering for BC?



CHRIS KEELER / THE RIP

Cheerleader Ashley Paradise fires up the crowd during a game.

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FEATURES



Above:
Kevin Crawford with
Sandscapes shovels dirt into
a wooden box in preparation
for the sand sculpture.

Right:
Hal Hoffen from Butler
Amusements connects pieces
of "The Zillerator" roller
coaster.

Left:
Noel Cardenas works on an
ATM by the entrance to the
Kern County Fairgrounds on
Monday. The Fair runs
through Oct. 6.

Photos by Chris Keeler /
The Rip



Settin' up the Fair

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