



Teachers from hell
Students and instructors define what makes a bad teacher.

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Class bowls 'em over
Take a look at BC's ultimate early bird class — bowling.

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Big bucks up for grabs
Fill out our contest coupon for a chance to win \$100.

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THE RENEGADE RIP

www.therip.com

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Bakersfield College

April 4, 2003

BC staff objects to faculty raises amid cuts

Classified employees worry about the impact that an increase in teachers' salaries will have on their jobs.

By **JEFF EAGAN**
Rip staff writer

Teachers will receive a raise this summer, which is causing concern among classified staffers whose jobs are on the line.

"I don't see the logic of giving anybody a raise, when anybody is getting reduced in their salary or getting laid off," said Mike Noland, labor relations repre-

sentative for the classified staff union. Dr. Sandra Serrano, Bakersfield College president, was expected to make her recommendation on proposed cuts in classified staffers at the Thursday Board of Trustees meeting.

Noland said the classified employees are being treated differently than faculty and administrators in respect to cuts. Classified employees include custodial, maintenance and secretarial staff, among many others, who make up the infrastructure of school employees.

"Laying off classified employees with a 30-day notice makes them much more

expedient. The process is less difficult than others," Noland said. "If in fact people are going to be cutting into particular areas of budget, I would want to make sure that those cuts are done equitably in proportion to that particular area's share of the budget."

IN OPINION: Who needs a chancellor? Not us. **Page 2**

The faculty raises total around \$2.4 million in July, according to Noland. He doesn't see the reasons for raises in these financially troubled times.

"I don't think the community that we serve would support giving raises to people in one hand and eliminating jobs on the other ... \$2.4 million in regard to

classified employees, that's maybe a hundred jobs."

But faculty union President Steve Eso, a BC psychology professor, sees inherent problems in foregoing the salary increases, which were already contracted between the faculty and trustees on Dec. 12.

"We gave up certain things in our contract to get the raises, so to now defer, delay or reduce them has the ultimate result of punishing the faculty in a way that seems really unfair," Eso said.

"The people that it affects inequitably are senior faculty that have been underpaid for the last 10 to 15 years ... and now

See **BUDGET**, Page 3



JULIAN JAQUEZ / THE RIP

Kenny Estes is interviewed during a campus protest of the budget cuts on March 13.

Students express doubts about war

Some support the new conflict in Iraq, while some think the United States attacked for the wrong reasons.

By **EDELITH OBAS**
Features Editor

Nader Mojibi-Yazdi remembers when his country was at war with Iraq.

The 21-year-old Bakersfield College student from Iran spent the first eight years of his life watching war.

"I was a kid and I was watching cartoons, and whenever Iraqi planes would come to the region, the cartoon would stop and it would have this red alarm on TV going on, and that alarm still scares me when I hear it, it still brings back memories."

Mojibi-Yazdi, who is vice president of communications for the Associated Students of Bakersfield College, said while the United States is at war with Iraq, it is the Iraqi citizens who are the ultimate casualties.

"I do not support the war," he said.

Besides Mojibi-Yazdi, other students at BC also disagree with the war.

David Gardner, 19, said, "We are doing it for the wrong reason."

He is concerned because the United States was not on the side of the United Nations.

An international student agreed that it is not a good idea because most countries around the world are against it. He hopes it will come to an end soon.

"We don't care about democracy right now,

we care about the market," said Andres Quarte, a student from Colombia.

The media are not showing enough of the suffering the war has caused, he maintained.

"We don't show that, we don't want to show that and we call that casualties."

The U.S. government cannot turn back, now that it has spent billions of dollars for this war, he said, because it will only be humiliated.

Although there are students opposing the war, there are others who believe it is necessary.

"It should've happened a long time ago," said Genaro Acevedo. "Take out our enemies before they get more powerful than you."

Michael Barut, 23, said he supports the war.

"Saddam Hussein is a threat to the world and we got to do something about it," he said.

Lauren Jones, ASBC bookstore senator, said although she has mixed feelings, she feels the United States needs to do something about Saddam.

"I don't think we should have gone in without the U.N.," she said. "That kind of discredits the U.N."

Fire-tech major Charles Hill said Saddam should have been taken care of in the first Gulf War.

He also said everyone has a right to protest, but Americans should appreciate the soldiers fighting for freedom.

"I think the troops would want us as Americans to live our lives as normally as possible," he said.

— Photo Editor Chris Keeler contributed to this story.



A message for Editor written by Graham at 395 and him an e-mail at ... Leave you ... the name of your ... and their



SHAWN HOLLOWAY / THE RIP

Above: Carol Arbuthnot walks her Bernese mountain dog, Halli, at the dog show.

Right: Justin Zabelle pets a dog while his bird, Herman, scopes out his soda.



ROGER HORNBACK / THE RIP

A Dog's Life

Dog lovers from far and wide converged on the Kern County Fairgrounds Saturday and Sunday to show off some prime specimens of the canine kind in the Kern County Kennel Club's 57th annual dog show.

See more photos, Page 5.

Protesters continue fight in budget crisis

L.A. community college students try to keep Gray Davis' attention on the massive deficit.

By **EDELITH OBAS**
Features Editor

LOS ANGELES — Community college students say they won't give up protesting proposed state budget cuts.

Determined to win the fight against cuts in classes and higher registration fees, thousands gathered March 29 in Pershing Square and marched past the state office building on Spring Street.

The rally was the second time that students have gathered to protest Gov. Gray Davis' proposed state budget cuts.

"I feel that he hears us, I don't feel he's listening yet," said Trikana Johnson from Compton Community College.

"For him to truly listen, there will have

"I feel that he hears us, I don't feel he's listening yet. For him to truly listen, there will have to be a few more protests like this. We will continue to write, we will continue to call, we will continue to protest, we will continue to let our voices be heard."

— *Trihana Johnson, Compton Community College student*

to be a few more protests like this. We will continue to write, we will continue to call, we will continue to protest, we will continue to let our voices be heard," he said.

He promised that protests against the budget cuts will last as long as they need to. Another rally is scheduled to be held on the steps of the state Capitol in Sacramento on Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Johnson said the cuts are affecting him.

"It's affecting me, I come from a low income family and I need services like extended opportunity programs."

He said his opportunity to attend one of the most prestigious schools, Harvard, will be in jeopardy because of the budget cuts.

"With these heightened fees, I wouldn't be able to afford going to school and get my scholarship to Harvard."

Arzenio Rodriguez, also attending

community college as an administration of justice major, said the increased registration fees will affect his pocketbook.

"I pay my own books, I pay my own tuition," he said. "We can't tolerate this."

Holly Mota, who teaches early education, said she opposes the planned cuts for childhood education.

Mota also said that the price per unit, which was proposed at \$24, may now go up to \$26, a 110 percent increase from the \$11 per unit students pay now.

"That's too much!" she said.

She maintained that the governor should listen to students.

"He better be listening, because I voted for him. If I could vote to get him out I would do that. We're hoping to keep fighting and he better hear us," she said.



EDELITH OBAS / THE RIP

Stacey McMullen, student body president of L.A. Harbor College, speaks out on budget cuts.



MAR JO JONES / THE RIP

Mar Jo

STAFF EDITORIAL

ASBC plans to hold elections later this month



ASBC NEWS
Nader Mojibi-Yazdi

The election process for positions in the Associated Students of Bakersfield College for fall 2003 begins later this month. All students, regardless of their major or age, are encouraged to run.

There is no experience necessary for any of the positions and outgoing officers will take an initiative to train the newly elected officers.

There are three branches of ASBC for which interested students may run.

Executive Board

The Executive Board is the core of student activities on campus, and it manages and coordinates all affairs in regards to student life.

These positions are currently the only paid positions in ASBC, and the officers are required to work between 12 and 15 hours per week, depending on the position, to qualify for the stipend.

The positions include president; vice president of legislation, who chairs the Student Senate; vice president of activities, who chairs the Interclub Council; vice president of finance, who chairs the Finance Committee; vice president of communications, who chairs the Communications Committee; and chief justice, who chairs the Student Court.

Student Senate

The Student Senate initiates legislation or resolutions at the campus.

community, state and federal levels. The senators are issued a free parking permit at the beginning of each semester.

Some of the positions include activities senator, athletics senator, political senator, technological promotions senator and environmental senator.

For a detailed list of all the positions, please reply to this article.

Student Court

The Student Court controls the judicial powers of ASBC, and consists of up to eight associate justices and the chief justice. Interested students may run for the vacant associate justice positions.

The election is open to all students who meet the grade-point average and unit requirements.

Being an officer of the student government is an exciting experience that enhances students' leadership, time management and public speaking skills, as well as their knowledge of parliamentary procedures. Holding an ASBC position also is the most outstanding extracurricular activity one can achieve.

Please consider running for the elections since during these difficult times of budget cuts, our students need strong and committed representatives like you.

— Mojibi-Yazdi is ASBC's vice president of communications. E-mail him at asbpcpm@bc.cc.ca.us.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Teacher praises Rip coverage

The *Renegade Rip* has always been an outstanding community college publication. I have copies of *The Rip* from 1975-77 when I was a student here, and the work the students did then was vastly superior to the work of other community college newspapers from around the state.

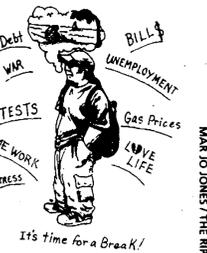
That being said, I felt compelled to write you to commend you and your staff for the publications you produced on March 21 and March 28. They were the finest editions of a community college newspaper that I have ever read.

These are brutal times for our nation, and for our state's community colleges. There are many different points of view as to the cause of these problems and to the solutions to those problems. Yet your paper achieved an exemplary balance of opinions from virtually every side of the issue. Your reporting and editorial were accurate, well-written and

informative, and the effort your writers expended on their articles was evident. The photographers did an exceptional job also, with some terrific sports pictures and some stirring photographs of the March in March demonstration in Sacramento. I particularly enjoyed the lighthearted features in these issues, i.e. the cartoons and artwork, the BC Brains column, and the always enjoyable 'Gade Feedback. In our grim national and state circumstances, we need to laugh now more than ever.

Again, kudos all around to you and your staff. You all did an outstanding job: layout, artwork, writers, photographers, cartoonists and printers alike. I'm sure your adviser, Kathy Freeman, is very proud of you all, as her guiding touch was also evident in the quality of work her students produced.

DONALD F. TURNEY
BC faculty



MAR JO JONES / THE RIP

Who needs a chancellor? Not us

The last thing the Kern Community College District needs is a new chancellor.

As many faculty and staff have pointed out in the weeks since Dr. Walter Packard announced that he will step down as chancellor in May to accept a job at a community college in Illinois, his departure leaves us with the perfect opportunity to sit down and seriously re-evaluate how this district works.

A March 25 story in *The Bakersfield Californian* told of how the

Board of Trustees is seeking to appoint an interim chancellor for up to a year. But given the gravity of the current budget crisis, wouldn't it make more sense to leave the position vacant for now?

According to Pam Whitley, an educational services assistant at the district office, the chancellor earns an annual salary of \$162,233, with a monthly car allowance of \$700. If the position were left unfilled during the search for a permanent replacement, the district could funnel that money into programs such as counseling and EOP&S that run the risk of being cut, easing the pain felt by students.

But the Board of Trustees also should give serious consideration to other options, like eliminating the chancellor's position altogether. In doing so, the board could take the first step toward streamlining the district's operations and, as faculty union President Steve Ziso put it in a March 12 *Californian* story, "the dismantlement of

Give college students a breather: Let's have spring break earlier in the year

Spring break is over for most university students. Bakersfield College students, however, are still waiting to be set free.

So while their brains are being loaded with news of war and a serious state budget crisis, they also are having to wait for a break from homework, tests and boring lectures.

Administrators should be more sensitive to students, and plan spring break earlier in the year, instead of four weeks from the end of the semester.

According to an article by Geoffrey Cowley in a February edition of *Newsweek*, living with anxiety can have a serious effect on the body, causing muscle tension, aches, pains and twitching eyes. Just watch any student before a major test.

"Prolonged stress has physiological consequences," said Dr.

Jonathan Steinberg in the article. The state budget problems don't help much, either. Because of tuition increases and cuts in classes, many students all over California have become angry and worried about their education.

A student's wallet also has become a stress factor. Gas prices have increased dramatically since last semester, and students are having to weigh the cost of a full tank on top of other bills.

So why can't BC have an earlier spring break?

While BC is on a semester system, many universities are on quarter systems, meaning that they split their year into three sections, instead of two. CSUB's spring break fell right in between their second and third quarters, while BC's break follows midterms.

Teachers should give midterms earlier in the year so that spring break could be planned for the first week of April.

But administrators can't change

THE RENEGADE RIP

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'GADE FEEDBACK
Compiled by Chris Keeler / The Rip

What is the biggest form of stress in your life? Why?

Mercy Koiyah, psychology: "Right now it's school. I was working but I lost my job and now I have to concentrate on my classes."

Matt Sittler, criminal justice: "Girls, because I can't find a date."

Marcella Lopez, liberal studies: "Money, because you never have enough of it."

Art Marr, psychology: "Trying to please your parents."

Edwin Tucker, administrative justice: "I'm being reactivated in the military and now I have to give up school and I might not get some grades."

'GADE NEWSLINE

Student composers unite for concert

For the first time, Bakersfield College and California State University, Bakersfield, students and faculty members will team up for the ninth annual Young Composers Concert at CSUB on Saturday.

Students and faculty of both institutions will perform original student works ranging from pop, jazz and rock, to serious chamber music.

This year's concert also will feature works for string quartet, choir, jazz ensemble, voice and guitar.

The concert is at 8 p.m. in the Dore Theater at CSUB. Admission is \$5.

For more information, call 395-4533.

Important dates to remember for students

Students will have until April 11 to withdraw from semester-length classes and receive "W" grades. For those waiting impatiently for spring break, April 14 will mark the beginning of the break which will last until April 18. Finals will begin on May 12, and end on May 16. Graduation will be held May 16.

— Compiled by Campus Editor Coumba Tamboura

CRIME BEAT

Student reports convertible top slashed

A 1999 Mitsubishi Eclipse convertible had its top slashed with a sharp object repeatedly on March 26 in the Bakersfield College parking lot on University Avenue, campus security reported.

The Bakersfield Police Department was contacted. The vandalism did not appear to be a robbery attempt. The incident was reported as a felony because the amount of damage was more than \$400.

Laptop valued at \$2,000 disappears

A laptop left in Language Arts 217 was stolen by the time the owner, a student, returned the following day to retrieve it.

The student went to look for the laptop on March 18. The blue laptop, a Toshiba, was valued at \$2,000, according to Detective Mary DeGeare of the Bakersfield Police Department.

— Compiled by staff writer Jennifer Ruiz

CORRECTIONS

• Jason Medlock was the writer who expressed dismay over the turnout at a recent campus protest of the budget cuts in a letter to the editor in the March 28 edition. His name was incorrect.

• Connie Daniel, Tiffany Rivas, Nathan Hevle and Daniel Norville are students at East Bakersfield High School. Their school was misstated and Daniel, Hevle and Norville were misidentified in photo captions accompanying a story about Bakersfield College's William A. Wheeler Aquatic Center on the Sports page in the Feb. 28 edition.

The *Renegade Rip* regrets the errors.



JULIAN JAQUEZ / THE RIP

Keeping the faith

Laurel Belcher, a former Bakersfield College student and worship dancer for the Bakersfield Community Church, performs a passionate expression without words.

'Head of State' combines comedy with social commentary

By DANIELLA WILLIAMS
Rip staff writer

Picture the scene: Mount Rushmore, home to one of America's most beloved monuments. As the patriotic music swells, we see a rapper, complete with two "dancers" begin to perform. Raise the roof, homie.

Looking for political equality? "Head of State" manages to triumph over racial barriers in around 95 minutes.

With Chris Rock running the show, both directing and co-writing, "Head of State" is a feel-good movie with an edge. The movie tries to convey a positive message, combining comedy with social commentary. Though admirable, the combination contradicts itself at times. The comedian points out many social problems like gun control, economic discrimination and dirty politics, though

no solutions are truly offered.

Punches are rarely pulled here. An obscure alderman is selected by an unnamed party (Democrats, anyone?) to run as the token black guy, incurring favor with minority votes for the next election. Chris Rock, as Alderman Mays Gilliam, becomes a puppet to the party before some advice from his brother, played by Bernie Mac, encourages him to speak his mind.

From that moment on, using the tag line, "That ain't right!" Gilliam becomes a candidate who speaks honestly. Meanwhile, his opponent hides behind mudslinging campaign techniques, and says "God bless America—and nowhere else."

A well-timed satire, "Head of State" can be funny, yet at times is far too simplistic. The good guys are in white hats, and the bad are properly villainous. The characters seem bound to racial and political stereotypes.

"Head of State" is, nonetheless, worth a look. If only for the scene featuring the "team of superwhores" training the "C walkin'" and the ad campaigns ("Does Mays Gilliam support Cancer?"), the movie is worth the price of admission.



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SPORTS



Ernesto Toribio lets loose at Westchester Bowl during a Bakersfield College bowling class, part of the physical education program.

CHRIS KEELER / THE RIP

Strrriike!!

Bowling class provides fun for students while fulfilling credit requirements

By JEFF EAGAN
Rip staff writer

The lanes stand silent in the still morning air as Bakersfield College students slowly make their way through the glass doors of Westchester Bowl.

They all have their reasons for bowling, but their single purpose is to meet for their daily game as part of a physical fitness class.

The cadre of bowlers all have their own unique styles, some callously throwing the ball down the alley, while others carefully cup it in their hand to release a tremendous spin toward the awaiting pins.

The class welcomes bowlers of all skill levels to come and enjoy bowling and earn P.E. credit in the process. Ernesto Toribio, a first-time bowler, was one of the many beginners who took advantage of the class to learn about the sport.

"I don't really care about winning. I just like to have fun. I like it because it's laid back, and you just hit the

"I think they'd much rather get up at eight for bowling than for an English class."

— Tina Cummings,
bowling instructor

pins, that's it," he said.

There are two sections of the class that meet at 8 a.m. Monday through Thursday.

There are no requirements except that students pay a dollar to play and must show up every class day and bowl at least one game.

Since the class is offered only in the morning, some students have a hard time getting there.

One student, Joey Kaminski, 23, said the time of the class bothers him sometimes.

"It's been a while since I've bowled, and it's hard for me to wake up in the morning," Kaminski said.

However, compared to an English or math class, bowling is fun according to some students. Instructor Tina Cummings attests to the students' willingness to stay in the class.

"I think they'd much rather get up at eight for bowling than for an English class," Cummings said. "This class actually has a really good retention rate as opposed to some of my other physical education classes."

"They take this class because they want to bowl and they finish the class. They don't flake like they do in other classes."

Cummings encourages everyone to help each other out, especially the more seasoned bowlers who have been in the game for a while.

"We have a few students in here that are competitive bowlers that take it seriously, and I encourage them to help each other while they're bowling," she said.

Some of the bowlers enjoy the sport outside of class as well.

One such student, Bryan Jackson, 19, bowls competitively outside of class and has a high score of 287.

"I bowl in a league at Regency (Lanes) on Sunday nights. I'm there every week," he said.

Jackson said he always competes against his last score, and that this class offers him an extra opportunity to practice. While he may be the best player in the class, Jackson tries to have fun despite his competitive nature.

"Yes, usually (I'm competitive). I try to have fun most of the time, but I do get that way," he said.



Toribio practices during his 8 a.m. class.

CHRIS KEELER / THE RIP

FEATURES

Dog Days of Spring

Hundreds of dog lovers attend the Kern County Kennel Club's dog show on March 29 and 30 at the Kern County Fairgrounds



ROGER HORNBACK / THE RIP



ROGER HORNBACK / THE RIP

Upper left: Zanadu, a French hound, shows off the latest in doggie fashion.

Above: Mary Shoaf gives Pink, a harlequin Great Dane, a bath before the dog show.

Left: Handler Adam Wilkerson grooms Bridget, a wire fox terrier, for the show.



SHAWN HOLLOWAY / THE RIP

CLUB NOTES

The Golden Knight Chess Club is looking for members. There is no age requirement or dues. Players of all skill levels are welcome. For more information contact the club at GoldenKnightChess@msn.com

The BC Engineers' Club will host a push cart race for Spring Fling on Thursday, April 10. Interested faculty and staff are invited to participate. For more information call 395-4355 or stop by the Student Activities Office in Campus Center 4.

The Journey Christian Fellowship College and Career Ministry

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Ashley Owens did.

Ashley was a student in the BC Summer Multicultural Journalism Workshop.

Co-sponsored by *The Californian*, The Dow Jones Newspaper Fund and BC, this year's free workshop for high school students interested in media careers will be held June 9-26 at BC.

For an application, call 395-4344.

Ashley Owens

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This free class is open to high school juniors and seniors. Students learn the writing, Internet, photo and computer skills needed for a media career during the three-week Bakersfield College summer class. Five \$100 scholarships will be awarded and the outstanding workshop student will be eligible for a \$1,000 national scholarship!

Students must have lived in California for at least one year.

Sponsored by BC, The Dow Jones Newspaper Fund, The Bakersfield Californian, and the California Chicano News Media Association, the workshop's goal is to encourage high school juniors and seniors from all ethnic backgrounds to pursue media careers.

For information contact:
Kathy Freeman 395-4344 or
e-mail: kfreeman@bakersfieldcollege.edu

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FEATURES

Teachers from Hell

Students and teachers describe characteristics of bad college professors.

By VICTOR GARCIA
Sports Editor

They're disorganized. They may not be prepared. Or worse yet, they really don't interact with students.

These are just a few of the qualities of bad teachers, according to a number of Bakersfield College students interviewed.

"A bad teacher doesn't know how to interact with the students," said Ed Bennett, a BC student.

He recalled his own time in Teacher Hell.

"He just gets on everybody's nerves because he doesn't know how to act around other people. He doesn't really teach, he takes over," said Bennett, describing an instructor he once had at BC.

Mark Aguilar said he had a similar experience with a campus instructor who solved problems without explaining them.

"He would just solve a problem and at the end of solving the problem he'll ask, 'Is everybody understanding this? Does anybody have any questions?' It's like he's not explaining the process," said Aguilar.

A lack of explanation coupled with a lack of passion is a deadly combination in the classroom, according to Jason Medlock, who wants to become a teacher.

"If you're not passionate about what you do, you shouldn't be doing it," he said.

Medlock said while he hasn't had a bad experience with a teacher at BC, he has had them elsewhere.

"I have come across teachers, they just give you assignments, they don't explain it, they don't care what their students think," he said.

For Crystal Kayser, a bad teacher creates problems within the class.

She took one elective as her "fun relaxing class" and it has developed into a nightmare.

"She criticizes every little thing I do and there is more than one way to do things. She just thinks her way is the best way," said Kayser.

Students who have a gripe with specific teachers can vent their frustration online.

At the Web site RateMyProfessors.com, students can give their opinion of teachers

anonymously. This week 167 professors from BC were listed on the site. Teachers can be rated as good, average, poor and "hot." Professors can even log in and vote for themselves.

The information on the site is by no means accurate because anyone can criticize or compliment a teacher and one student's opinion of a teacher can differ greatly from that of another. For example, one student writes of a BC teacher, "Makes sure you understand material...never needed help outside of class," while another writes, "He will destroy you like an academic ninja!"

"When I was an undergraduate student we didn't have a Web site like that but we certainly had a lot of word of mouth. My only concern is an opportunity for a student who may have some sort of a grudge or a problem with a teacher to unfairly label a teacher," said Dr. Greg A. Chamberlain, dean for learning resources and information technology.

Chamberlain told of his own experience with a bad teacher.

"I had an English teacher who was more interested in discussing his political views than teaching us to write," he said.

He described a bad teacher as one who "doesn't care about the learning of the students."

Al Davis, an art professor, said bad teachers are those who lack commitment to the subject they teach, such as an teacher who isn't an artist, or an English teacher who doesn't love to read.

Ishmael Kimbrough, history professor, recalled his horror story with a bad teacher.

He had a history teacher at Peoria State University who hadn't changed his textbook in 50 years.

Kimbrough compared websites like RateMyProfessors.com to homecoming pageants. The person who wins is not always the best person, he said.

— Staff writer Mar Jo Jones contributed to this story.

Of course, bla bla bla.... and any idiot knows I'm so great, bla bla bla...

When do I get my puny paycheck?

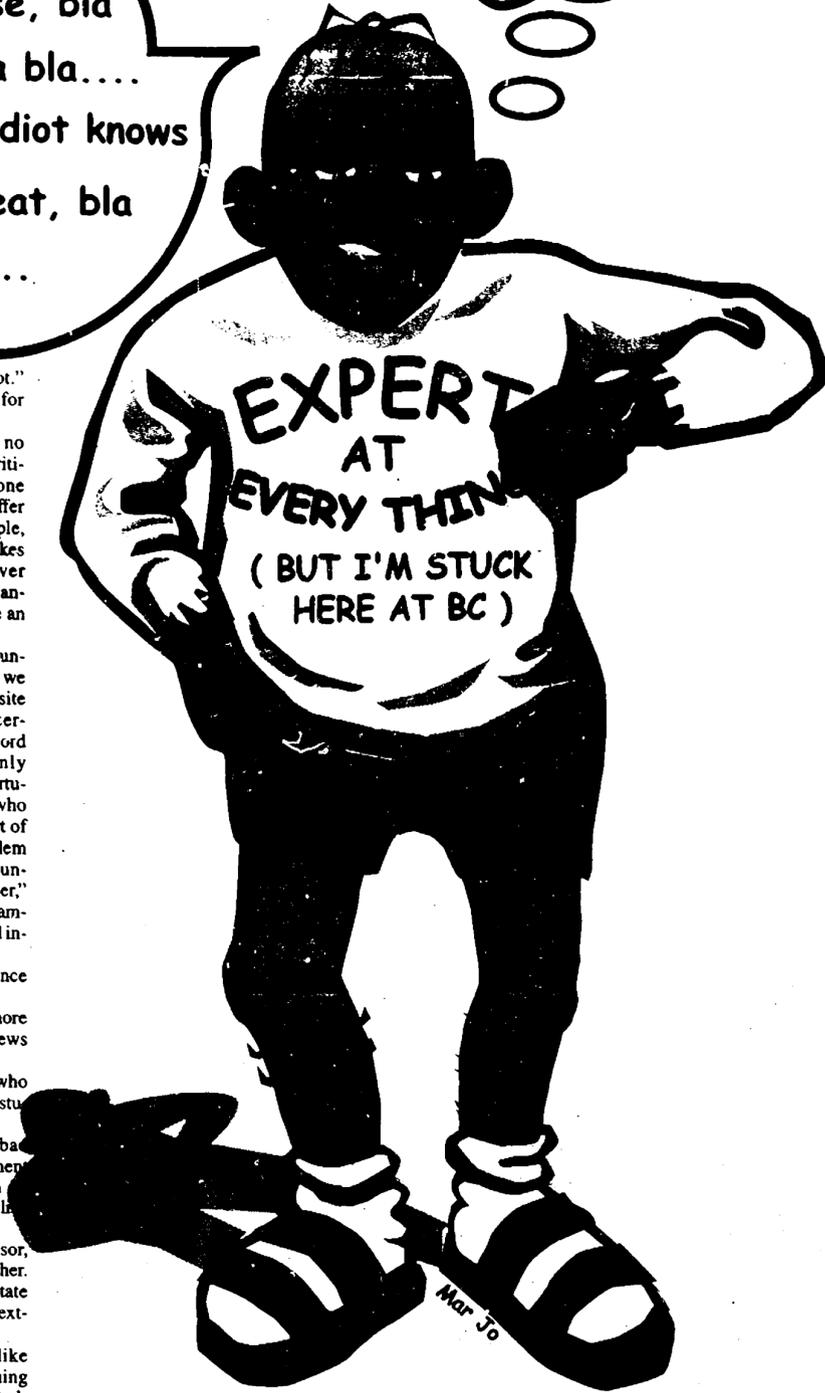


Illustration by Mar Jo Jones / The Rip

Tell us about your own hellish class

Admit it. Whether you are students or teachers, you've experienced hell in a class here. Share the grisly details by writing us at ripmail@bc.cc.ca.us. Please include your real name and telephone number so we can reach you. We will print the best of the responses that we receive.

BC BRAINS

Compiled by Roy Lee Maxwell / The Rip

Editor's note: BC Brains is a new feature that asks students a question to test their knowledge of all things trivial.

What is rhinoplasty?

Louis Ramirez, undeclared: "Something to make you look like a rhino."

Theo Youn, pharmacy: "A plastic rhino."

Brianda Reyna, animal science: "Nose surgery."

Ben Flores, undeclared: "Some kind of surgery."

Correct answer: Rhinoplasty is plastic surgery of the nose.

It Pays to Read The Rip

Would you like a crack at winning a hundred bucks? If so, *The Renegade Rip* has an offer you can't refuse.

There are no flaming hoops to jump through and you don't have to run a marathon. All you have to do is pick up the paper and read it.

In every edition until May 2, we will have a question based on a story in that week's paper or online edition, but it's up to you to find the correct

answer. **Only one answer per person per edition will be accepted.**

Each correct answer will give you a chance to win a drawing on May 5 for the donated prize of \$100 in cold, hard cash. We also will publish the winner's picture in the May 9 edition.

Fill out the answer form on the right. Clip it out and drop it off at *The Rip* office in Campus Center 1, right across from the cafeteria.

It Pays to Read The Rip

NAME: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____ E-MAIL: _____

QUESTION NO. 5: Who in the BC bowling class has a high score of 287?

ANSWER: _____

The deadline to submit this week's entry is 3 p.m. on Thursday, April 24. If you have questions, call Editor in Chief Jarrod Graham at 395-4324 or e-mail him at ripmail@bc.cc.ca.us.

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Vol. 74 • No. 8

Bakersfield College

April 25, 2003

Anonymous e-mail blasts teachers' salaries

Sender uses the name of late BC health professor Norm Hoffman to criticize faculty pay.

By VICTOR GARCIA
Sports Editor

Norm Hoffman is alive and well in cyberspace.

That is what faculty and staff at the Kern Community College District office, Porterville College and Cerro Coso College learned when an

IN OPINION:
Impostor debases instructor's memory. Page 2

e-mail was sent to them by a person using the late Bakersfield

College health teacher's name.

The e-mail also was sent to BC, but was blocked because BC e-mail is moderated.

The anonymous message expressed the writer's disapproval of faculty getting raises while a number of classified staffers are expected to be laid off. The message was sent from the e-mail address

"My father was a man of honesty and integrity. He'd stand full-heartedly behind the words he spoke, the actions he displayed, whether it be professional or casual. He wouldn't have appreciated an anonymous e-mail."

—Grant Hoffman, Norm Hoffman's son

NormHoffman@consultant.com.

Raj S. Doshi, a computer systems analyst at the district office, forwarded the e-mail to classified staffers at BC to express his displeasure

with it.

"I sent it to BC classified staff because I did not want anyone to think that the classified (employees) would support something like that,"

Doshi said.

In the e-mail, the author wrote, "I am writing under an assumed name because I fear retaliation. I hope you will not follow your inclination to disregard my thoughts."

However, Doshi and others were concerned due to the author's use of Hoffman's name.

Grant Hoffman, Norm Hoffman's son, said the e-mail wouldn't have been appreciated by his father.

"My father was a man of honesty and integrity," he said. "He'd stand full-heartedly behind the words he

spoke, the actions he displayed, whether it be professional or casual. He wouldn't have appreciated an anonymous e-mail."

The e-mail criticized teachers' salaries.

"Faculty are very well paid. Ask the KCCD chancellor to give you a list of total earnings reported to the IRS for all KCCD staff. You will find that several faculty are earning over \$100,000 a year by working overloads, performing duplicative administrative functions and receiving

See E-MAIL, Page 3

Statewide M.E.Ch.A. conference starts today

Bakersfield College will host an event that is expected to draw about 500 students.

By JARROD M. GRAHAM
Editor in Chief

Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan will kick off its spring 2003 Statewide Conference 6 p.m. today at Bakersfield College.

Some 500 students are expected to attend the conference, which is held twice a year, said conference co-chairman Hector Leonzo, who is a member of BC's M.E.Ch.A.

The event — organized by the Centro CalifAztlan Region of M.E.Ch.A., which stretches from Santa Cruz to Santa Barbara — is expected to offer attendees workshops on such topics as Argentine-born Cuban revolutionary Ernesto "Che" Guevara and clearing up misconceptions about the "Sun Stone," which is mistakenly called the "Aztec calendar."

"One (purpose of the conference) is to educate ourselves," Leonzo said. "We don't usually have access to workshops like the ones we're going to have at Statewide."

In addition to the workshops, attendees will get a chance to see performances by mariachi musicians and a play, "The Meaning of M.E.Ch.A.," during tonight's "Noche de Cultura," or "Night of Culture."

Keynote speaker Dr. Jess Nieto, a former BC instructor and advocate for the Latino community, will make a presentation during the welcoming ceremony at 8 a.m. Saturday.

Also, conference-goers will participate in a march through downtown Bakersfield to protest state budget cuts after a rally 5 p.m. Saturday at BC's Weill Institute, 2101 K St.

Leonzo said members of the public are invited to attend the conference, but they must register to do so. Registration runs from 6 to 11 p.m. today and 7:30 to 8:25 a.m. Saturday.



JENNIFER RUIZ / THE RIP

History major April Lopez enjoys the slip 'n' slide during Spring Fling week.

Stunts lift Spirits

Spring Fling events draw clubs into lighthearted activities on campus

By DANIELLA WILLIAMS
Rip staff writer

Well, spring break has come and gone, and with it went Spring Fling week.

Bakersfield College was a different campus for a brief time as the sound of local band Menzo Buru floated into Campus Center. The mood was light as clubs set up booths and tried to get students to have a little fun before break.

April Lopez, 20, a history major and associate justice for the Associated Students of Bakersfield College, misses Spring Fling, despite the headache and sunburn it caused.

"In hindsight, it was wonderfully hedonistic ... the greatest time," she said.

The week before spring break, nothing seemed to go as planned, said Whitney Rux, ASBC vice president of activities.

"A bunch of our activities were kind of late, so I think some of the clubs were a little mad at me," he said, looking regretful.

Even though they ran late, the events of Spring Fling brought a strangely different energy. One BC student wandered from the Phi Theta Kappa booth



ROY LEE MAXWELL / THE RIP

BC M.E.Ch.A. members hang on tight during the tug o' war competition.

completely covered in shaving cream. Like a tame version of the MTV show "Jackass," he repeatedly said, "Hugs, not drugs," as he held his own parade through campus and frightened a few visiting schoolchildren. But during Spring Fling, his behavior didn't seem out of place.

The push-cart race between M.E.Ch.A. and the Engineers' Club drew a crowd of students and applause for M.E.Ch.A.'s unexpected victory. Pre-Med Club's pie throw and a strong-man competition, created by the Engineers' Club, got students into the action. Most of the time, though, the participants were only club members.

The Phi Theta Kappa booth featured both mud and shaving-cream wrestling.

The wrestling was successful in drawing attention through the efforts of Lopez and volunteer Mark Paddock. One of the funnier moments, however, came from Phi Theta Kappa Vice President Russell Iger, 20, a psychology major, who consented to wrestle only once. He took on two women, Lopez and Lisa Sanchez, and pinned both.

Of her opponent, Lopez has nothing but praise. "Russell wrestled like a Greek god," she exclaimed.

Top high school paper loses adviser

Tehachapi High Warrior wins first place in the nation, yet the journalism teacher expects to lose his job.

By DOMINIC TROFFER
Rip staff writer

Tehachapi High School's campus newspaper, The Warrior, was named first place in its division at a recent national high school journalism conference in Portland, Ore.

But The Warrior's victory is bittersweet.

Alex Robb, the teacher who has advised the newspaper staff for 11 years and has helped guide it to success, expects to be laid off because of state budget cuts. According to some students, that will signal the end of The Warrior.

"Mr. Robb is the journalism program at THS. When they move him away, they do in the program," said Ian Hamilton, The Warrior's managing editor. Other students echoed Hamilton's feelings.

"I don't think it could go on without him. He does a really good job," said Features Editor Nancy Meyer.

Budget cuts have hit Tehachapi hard, said Leighton Paul, former interim superintendent of the Tehachapi Unified School District. The district will lay off 55 teachers after this school year if harsh cuts are not softened by a revised state budget.

Robb is expected to be reassigned as a grade school teacher because he lacks the correct degree, Paul said.

According to Robb, his credentials through the Regional Occupational Program are just as valid as other

credentials.

Another factor is low enrollment and funding for Robb's visual graphics and photography classes through ROP.

Robb said when he found out in late February that he may lose his job.

"I'm an 11-year teacher and they're keeping an art teacher with one year of experience," he said. Frustration also stemmed from THS Principal Mark McCulloch's system for electives, which he said, "has no rhyme or reason."

Robb said his classes are going to be replaced with a restaurant careers class.

Tension with McCulloch dates to an April 3 meeting of Save Our Schools, a grass-roots group formed by a Tehachapi dentist in hopes of raising the \$2 million needed to save all 55 teachers' jobs. Robb said McCulloch blames him for informing the media of the event.

"We were at the meeting and one of my students said he was going to do something," he said. "He got on his cell phone and called (all of the Bakersfield news outlets)."

McCulloch did not return phone calls seeking comment.

Supporters have written letters on behalf of Robb, but apparently have not convinced trustees, despite the newspaper's honors.

The latest award is the most prestigious The Warrior has ever won.

It took first place in the one- to eight-page category at the Spring National Journalism Convention, sponsored by the National Scholastic Press Association and the Journalism Education Association of Kansas State University.



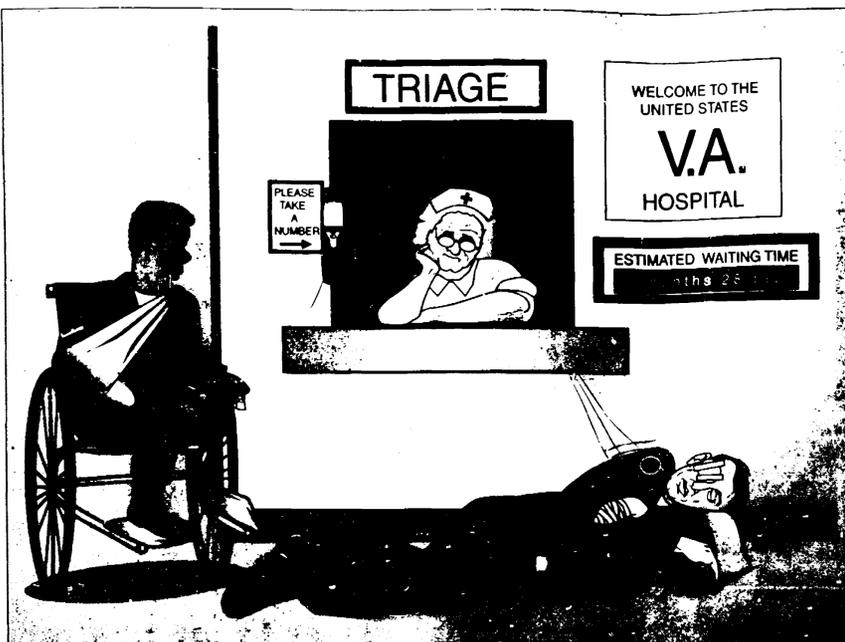
ROGER HORNBACK / THE RIP

Wooing the Fans

Foo Fighters frontman Dave Grohl pummels the crowd with his vocal stylings during a recent concert at the Centennial Garden. See review and photos, Page 5.



OPINION



Vets face shrinking health benefits

Bush administration's tax proposal would have cut health benefits for Iraq War veterans.

By VICTOR GARCIA
Sports Editor

Recently the Senate slashed President Bush's proposed tax cut, which is great news for veterans, who would have lost their health benefits if the administration's proposal had gone through. According to The Washington Post, the leaders of America's most prominent veterans' organizations say that President Bush is failing to honor past commitments to military men and women. Bush is sending service men and women to war in Iraq and yet he wants to cut veterans' benefits, mostly health benefits, even though their benefits already have been cut. Doesn't the president care about the veterans? What in the world could he be thinking? The wealthy would get a greater percentage of the tax plan's benefits. That means it is Veterans should be getting more benefits, especially de-

More than 200,000 veterans seeking health care in January waited more than six months.

ing a new resolution. Action: Change: 2003

ing a new resolution. Action: Change: 2003

'Concerned' e-mail impostor debases Hoffman's memory

Deceased health teacher's name is used in anonymous complaint over teacher salaries.

By JENNIFER MILLS
Opinion Editor

When a "concerned" citizen wanted to complain about the budget cuts at Bakersfield College through an anonymous e-mail address, the writer picked the wrong name to do it under.

The anonymous author used the name of beloved BC professor, Norm Hoffman, who was killed by a motorist in March 2002. The author's actions are nauseating, and the e-mail's complaints deserve no attention.

Hoffman, a former health professor and bicycling enthusiast, was not only loved by BC staff and students, but by his family and many other members of the community. A memorial was established in his name, as well as an endowment to provide annual scholarships to BC students. Herb Benham, columnist for The Bakersfield Californian, devoted column space to Hoffman after his death. "Norm," for those of you who don't know, refers to Norm Hoffman, the Bakersfield College health professor," quoted the column. "Hoffman had graduated to one-name-only status. There was only one Norm in town; no one else need apply."

But the e-mail written to BC staff members brought no honor to Hoffman's name. Instead, it brought shame to the author, who is a coward. "I am writing under an assumed name because I fear retaliation," the e-mail read. "However, I hope you will not follow your initial inclination to disregard my thoughts. I hope you will ask several additional questions of KCCD and the faculty." Whether or not the author makes a good argument about the district, the writer has only trampled his or her own credibility. If the information brought forth in this e-mail was truly important, then it should be brought forth in an open, honest manner. The author should not have stooped so low, especially in a debate about money. The author also brings forth an issue of ethics, arguing that the money issues of KCCD should be questioned. But using Hoffman's name is so despicable and unethical that the e-mail becomes hypocritical. Instead of using the name of a highly respected man who is no longer with us, why not use something more fitting? Why not Saddam Hussein@lookalike.com? Innocent@JacqueChirac.com? NevilChamberlin@spineless.com? Or how about using the name of Michael Jackson@mascarade.com? Certainly any of those addresses would have been more appropriate. Although it is impossible to track the e-mail address to the author, we all hope that this person will refrain from writing again in the future. The e-mail was in extremely poor taste and the author should write an apology.



Hoffman

Bad teachers beware: Students can file complaints

By JENNIFER MILLS
Opinion Editor

For students, one thing can ruin an entire semester at Bakersfield College: bad teachers. We all know what they are like, because we have all had them. What students don't know, however, is how to complain. What are students' rights when it comes to bad teachers? According to the BC 2002-04 student handbook, "Student complaints are taken seriously; therefore, the complaint must be of a compelling, substantive, and verifiable nature." The handbook then offers a three-level procedure to follow if a student wants to make a complaint about grades, course content, access to classes, verbal or physical abuse by faculty, staff, or students and faculty members who refuse to meet with students. A student should first attempt to resolve the issue by contacting the teacher involved. If this does not work the student can contact the teacher's immediate supervisor and submit an "Initial Student Complaint Form." The supervisor will meet with the student as well as the teacher and attempt to resolve the problem. If the complaint continues, it may move to the second level, which involves an administrator who will meet with all involved to resolve the complaint. Following the conference, the administrator writes out his/her decision and the basis for it and informs all parties what was decided. The student or teacher may challenge this by proceeding to a third level. For this to happen, the student or teacher must file a written appeal and a meeting is held with a vice president and all involved. If the issue is resolved, all sign a written statement outlining the resolution. If it remains unresolved, a hearing panel is created. Although some teachers can become annoying during the last few weeks of a semester, no student should file a complaint unless the problem is serious. For more information on student complaints, refer to a copy of the student handbook, which is free to students in the ASBC office in Campus Center.

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'GADE FEEDBACK
Compiled by Daniella Williams / The Rip

What's your best excuse for missing class?

Henry Fernandez, undeclared: "I had a very bad cold. Cough, cough."

Jodie Demarah, environmental horticulture: "I have very good attendance. I love my classes."

Glenn Pack, correctional administration: "Oh ... not getting up in the morning. I stay up late."

Rebecca White, liberal studies: "Um ... oversleeping."

Tobias Smith, business: "I went surfing."

CAMPUS

'GADE NEWSLINE

International Students to host dinner Thursday
The Bakersfield College International Student Services and International Students Association will host an International Dinner on Thursday at 5:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. The dinner will feature food from almost 30 different countries, and best live performances and music from nations around the world. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$6 for students. All proceeds go toward scholarships. To buy tickets, call 395-4421.

Jazz Ensemble will perform Sunday
The BC Jazz Ensemble will have its final performance at the Indoor Theater on Sunday at 4 p.m. The concert will feature compositions by Thad Jones and Duke Ellington. Admission is free.

Ag Club raffles off half a hog to raise funds
The Bakersfield College Ag Club will hold a raffle fundraiser Friday May 9 during the Ag Club Awards. The raffled item is one-half of a hog, cut and wrapped. Tickets are \$5 per entry. The winner need not be present at the awards to win. To purchase tickets, contact Gay Gardella at 395-4053.

The Renegade Rip named one of best-in state
The Renegade Rip was named one of the top four community college newspapers in the state during the recent Journalism Association of Community College's annual competition in Sacramento. This is the first time since 1997 that The Rip has won the JACC Pacesetter Award, an honor based upon points earned in the mail-in and on-the-spot competitions. A newspaper also must win general excellence first before it can be considered for the Pacesetter. Rip students won a total of 22 awards at the conference.

About 50 colleges at the conference compete for the Pacesetter, which is awarded to only four schools annually. The other colleges that won this top honor were Contra Costa, Palomar and Pasadena City. Newspaper awards in the mail-in contests were: general excellence, The Renegade Rip; online publication, general excellence, www.therip.com; first place, critical review, Amber Garcia; second place, front page design, Jarrod M. Graham; third place, line illustration, Gerardo Delgado; fourth place, editorial, Demethris Blackman; fourth place, column writing, Amber Garcia; honorable mention, inside page design, Ben Oliver; honorable mention, editorial cartoon, Gerardo Delgado; honorable mention, critical review, Lorenzo Miranda; honorable mention, feature photo, John Vodopija; honorable mention, sports feature photo, Todd E. Swenson; and honorable mention, informational graphic, Jarrod M. Graham. On-the-spot awards were: 2003 JACC Pacesetter Award, The Renegade Rip; first place, critical review, Jeff Eagan; second place, feature photo, Roger Hornback; third place, news photo, Roger Hornback; third place, bring-in infographic, Mar Jo Jones; fourth place, copy editing, Jarrod M. Graham; honorable mention, editorial cartoon, Mar Jo Jones; and honorable mention, bring-in advertisement, Chris Keeler.



Right on Target
Pierre Wang, left, from Target Stores, explains how to apply for a job at the retail store to Bakersfield College student Eric Sallee during Career Day Wednesday in Campus Center.

E-MAIL: Anonymous message attacks teachers' salaries

Continued from Page 1
stipends — many of which are counter to the 50% equation. How is it possible for a faculty member to work a full load which assumes 40 hours and still have time to work an additional full load and a half? If you check the daily rate of faculty you will find that they make more than some Deans," wrote the anonymous person. But according to Grant Hoffman, his father was on the low end of the totem pole as far as pay is concerned and he loved his job. "With the avenues he took into getting his word out, it doesn't lend a proper address for response to the issue," he said, when asked if the writer was a coward for not identifying himself. "Yes, it would be a more cowardly way to get his personal expression, if valid, across." Hoffman said the writer should have discussed the issue openly. "I just wish that he wasn't worried about retaliation and could bring this forth in a meeting with his peers."

Grace Van Dyke Bird Library
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Lock for the next edition of The Rip on May 2nd

SPORTS

Giving his all for basketball

By LEANNE CAVE
Rip staff writer

Student's passion for game not limited by spina bifida

Nathan Gutierrez was born with spina bifida, a spinal condition that can confine one to a wheelchair. But Gutierrez was born with something that a wheelchair cannot hold back: a passion and love for the game of basketball.

Jan Stuebbe, Bakersfield College athletics director, said that Gutierrez is a person who never complains when asked to do something. He has a positive attitude and the desire to coach basketball.

The 19-year-old BC student uses that passion as a student assistant for the men's basketball program. He keeps stats for the men and manages the clock for the women's games when asked.

"There's really only so much I can do, but I always try to provide encouragement and be there for them if they need to talk," he said.

His mother, Tamara Gutierrez, said he's always had a love for basketball.

"He knows the game like the back of his hand and that's his ultimate desire, to one day be a coach at a higher level," she said.

It all began at the age of 6, when Gutierrez and his family moved to Bakersfield.

Because of his love for basketball, he joined the Rolling Chariots, a wheelchair basketball team.

"I played shooting guard on the Rolling

Chariots team," Gutierrez said. "This is basically where I learned the game and decided that this is what I want to do in life. My dream is to become an NBA coach."

According to Tamara Gutierrez, Rolling Chariots gave her son a feel for the game and taught him that he could fall out of the wheelchair and it was OK. He could be aggressive and the team would give him encouragement.

Gutierrez's reputation as a player didn't go unnoticed. While playing for the Chariots, he was contacted by the Fresno team that competes on the national level.

"I was the only one from Bakersfield to be chosen," he said. "We were one of the top three teams in the state and we went to nationals in Illinois. We ended up eleventh in the nation."

As a coach for North Bakersfield Parks & Recreation District, Gutierrez led his team to a championship.

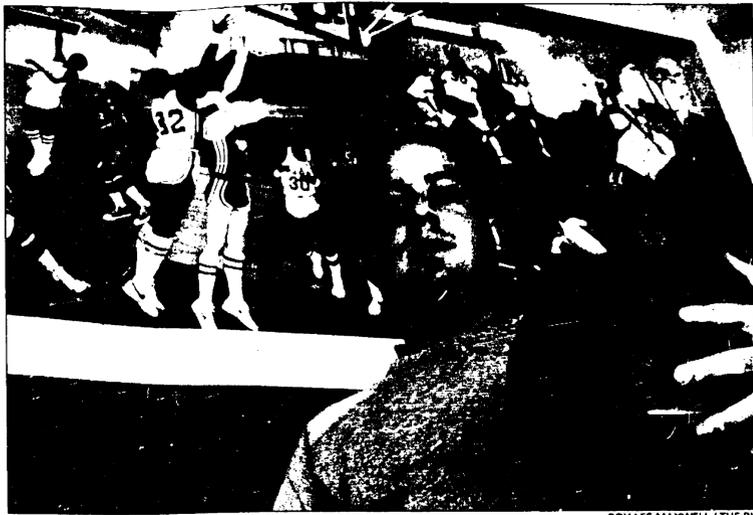
"My first coaching job as a junior high coach taught me patience," he said.

His mother said watching him coach made her proud.

"I can't begin to tell you what it was like watching him coach," she said.

"He was incredible the way he handled the players and his knowledge of the game was amazing."

Gutierrez said that his mom and Dr. Chuck Wall, BC business professor, have been the greatest inspirations in his life.



ROY LEE MAXWELL / THE RIP

Student Nathan Gutierrez says he hopes to one day become a professional basketball coach.

"Dr. Wall has always encouraged me and has taught me that despite limitations, I can overcome them and accomplish anything I want to."

Wall said that Gutierrez won't let anything keep him from his goals.

"This is a young man that loves the game of basketball and he is not letting the fact

that he has a disability hold him back," he said. "He is not filtering life through a disability. Nathan is saying, 'This is what I want and I'm going to do it anyway.' He is a good student, also."

When Gutierrez isn't coaching, he likes to read.

"I like to read mysteries and basketball

books," he said. "About 90 percent of what I read is basketball."

As a student, he maintains a 3.0 GPA and is majoring in business administration.

"Whatever he decides to do we will support Nathan," his mother said. "We don't think of Nathan's disability as a problem or handicap, we think of it as a blessing."

Annual dinner honors track and field hall of fame inductees

Jim Broom, a BC pole vaulter in 1958, gives a speech after receiving an award at the 21st annual Track & Field and Cross Country Alumni Dinner.



SHAWN HOLLOWAY / THE RIP

By LEANNE CAVE
Rip staff writer

There were many touching moments at the 2003 Bakersfield College Hall of Fame Track & Field and Cross Country Alumni Dinner.

The highlight of the evening was the first award given.

The 2003 Norm Hoffman Scholarship Award was introduced by Hoffman's son, Grant Hoffman.

Hoffman was an assistant track and field coach at BC for 17 years and taught health classes. He was killed while riding his bike in 2001.

Grant Hoffman described the award as one that epitomizes his father's hard work and dedication to athletics.

Jerome Miller received the male award. At the time of the awards, Miller was ranked No. 1 in hurdles

in the Western State Conference and has a 3.42 GPA.

In a touching moment, Kirsten Hoffman, Norm Hoffman's daughter, introduced the female winner, Shelley Rice. Rice is ranked fifth in the Western State Conference in discus and has a 4.0 GPA.

"My dad would be proud of this award," Kirsten Hoffman said.

"He would think that this is neat. I would just like to congratulate the athletes who are receiving the awards."

Many athletes were in attendance to collect the awards that were given throughout the evening, including current athletes who were honored.

It also was a special time for past Hall of Fame inductees in attendance as they were introduced and applauded.

"This was a super event," said

Jan Stuebbe, BC athletics director.

"Bob Covey did a great job getting this organized to honor some great track and field and cross country athletes."

Not all of the Hall of Fame inductees could attend, but for those who did, it was a time of celebration as well as a time to reflect on successes.

Steve Clark, who was to be inducted in 2002, but could not because his mother became ill just as he entered the building last year, summed up what the awards meant to him.

"This really does mean a lot to me," Clark said. "This will be the most memorable to my mother. You young athletes of today, you've got the world by the tail and you don't even know it. Work hard and make every moment count because this is the greatest time of your life."



Another memorable moment was when Greg Barrett accepted the Hall of Fame induction on behalf of his deceased father, Robert Barrett.

"He's not here to accept this," said Barrett.

"But he would have been proud of this prestigious award. Thank you on behalf of him."

FEATURES

Foo Fighters fuel fan fervor

By JEFF EAGAN
Rip staff writer

The bustling, anxious crowd awaited the imminent musical experience while they stood at the foot of an overwhelming white banner, the draping black typset backed behind two giant red cursive F's emblazoned from stage to catwalk.

As the lights faded at 9:04 p.m., the shadow of Dave Grohl, lead singer and guitarist, and his counterparts appeared behind the white facade.

The Foo Fighters catered to the wide range of their musical repertoire. Delving into their past hits occasionally, they primarily kept to tracks off their latest album, "One by One," and their previous album "There is Nothing Left to Lose."

They played past hits and new radio favorites including "Times Like These," "Everlong" and "Learn to Fly," which left the crowd more than pleased with the generous helping of catchy, percussive pop-rock.

The meager cost of attendance, a mere \$12, begged the question of why there were still empty seats in the nearly filled Centennial Garden.

The slow crescendo of Grohl's guitar intro to the widely recognizable "All My Life" caused the crowd to erupt into a roar of elation. The giant banner suddenly fell to the stage as Grohl exploded across the stage like a long-haired demon of his sonic domain.

Grohl's white shirt and worn blue jeans could be seen beneath his clear, transparent guitar as fellow Foo Fighters Taylor Hawkins (drums), Nate Mendel (bass) and newcomer Chris Shiflett (guitar) accompanied him on their latest hit.

Between songs Grohl addressed the crowd, but not before spitting onstage, which was greeted with cheers all-around. He explained they were shooting a video at Centennial Garden and thanked everyone for coming. They then transitioned into "Innocence," a memorable song from the band's "uncertain beginnings that any true Foo follower would remember."

The Foo Fighters continued with the inspiring single, "My Hero," off their last album. The raw, motivational song inspired the crowd to join in chorus with Grohl, the breakdown solos of pure rock entrancing the young rock souls to collapse.

The song degenerated into blissful sonic cacophony, feeding the yearning teenage ears with delight at every pulsing reverberation.

The ubiquity of Grohl's stage presence permeated the arena on the unapologetic "Stacked Actors." During the guitar solo, Grohl jumped off the stage to the floor and circled around the metal gates holding back the throbbing crowd of outstretched hands.

He was chased by dozens of eager fans to the opposite side of the arena, where he stopped and posed before the consuming hands of the pit returned him to the stage.

Climbing back onstage, he continued the rhythmic interlude, starting victoriously at the crowd, climaxing with a raspy, piercing scream.

As the cheers died down, Grohl recounted his perilous flight across the arena. "Someone gave me a titty-twister from hell. It hurts, and that's why I like it," Grohl joked.

The band's performance was punctuated with thick distortion, catchy riffs, hopeful lyrics and the



ROGER HORNBACK / THE RIP

Tim Armstrong of the Transplants jams during the concert.

start-and-stop togetherness orchestrated only by a few regrouped bands with the energy the Fighters exuded.

However the show wasn't totally devoid of any sensitivity. In the song "Tired of You," a slower, mellow song, Grohl beckoned those with someone close to them in the audience to embrace each other. It stirred emotions from the sweaty 15-year-olds up front to the middle-aged fathers with their young daughters safely next to them in the stands.

When the stage cleared after the final song, the only thing that could summon them back for the three-song encore was the deafening endurance of the demanding crowd.

Grohl commended the audience on their perseverance throughout the show as he placidly led them into the

ethereal projections of "Aurora," a "deep cut" as Grohl put it.

The final blow to the audience came via "Breakout," a twitchy and brashly eclectic number that drew the final curtain and topped off the night. The unforgiving guitars and primal screams were the sonic "cargasm" for the crowd's musical desire.

The event also showcased two bands that took the stage before the Foo Fighters, The Special Goodness and The Transplants. The Transplants were well received among the youthful audience.

While Tim Armstrong pumped out the Rancid punk-inspired songs, vocalist Rob Aston screamed out his raps which left the floor somewhat satisfied while others looked disaffected.



PHOTOS BY CHRIS KEELER / THE RIP

The Hoopoe, played by Marissa Mercado, in Kimberly Chin's adaptation of "The Conference of the Birds."

A Bevy of Birds

Theater professor Kimberly Chin's adaptation of the epic 12th century poem "The Conference of the Birds" uses yoga, dance, masks, world music and shadow puppets to entertain the audience.

All of the world's birds embark on a pilgrimage to find their spiritual leader only to be surprised in the end.

The play started Thursday and runs this weekend, May 1-3 and 8-10. It starts promptly at 8 p.m.

There will also be two special matinee Saturday at 2 p.m. and Sunday, May 4 at 4 p.m. The show costs \$5 at the door and students and seniors get in for \$3.

Stacey Staab plays the role of the Crane during BC's latest theatrical production.

It Pays to Read The Rip

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PHONE NUMBER: _____ E-MAIL: _____

QUESTION NO. 6: What is the name of the State Farm agent who advertises in *The Rip*?

ANSWER: _____

The deadline to submit this week's entry is 3 p.m. on Thursday, May 1. If you have questions, call Editor in Chief Jarrod Graham at 395-4324 or e-mail him at ripmail@bc.cca.ca.us

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Students must have lived in California for at least one year.

Sponsored by BC, The Dow Jones Newspaper Fund, The Bakersfield Californian, and the California Chicano News Media Association, the workshop's goal is to encourage high school juniors and seniors from all ethnic backgrounds to pursue media careers.

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STUDENT LOAN CONSOLIDATION PROGRAM



SHAWN HOLLOWAY / THE RIP

April Lopez and Mark Paddock enjoy a shaving cream wrestling match during Spring Fling.

Slipping into Spring

Spring Fling gives the students a chance to act like no college student should

Right: BC students Amos Carver and Katie Ball dance to the sounds of local band Mento Buru at BC's Spring Fling held the week before spring break. It was a time to get away from it all, class, stress and to have a little fun.

The activities, which included pie throws, a strong-man competition and shaving cream wrestling, were presented by BC clubs.



ROY LEE MAXWELL / THE RIP



JULIAN JAQUEZ / THE RIP

Paul Cartwright of Mento Buru plays his fiddle for the crowd.

BC BRAINS

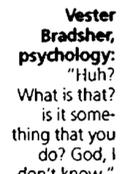
Compiled by
Coumba Tamboura / The Rip

Editor's note: BC Brains is a new feature that asks students a question to test their knowledge of all things trivial.

How often do you masticate?



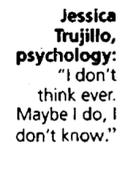
Ismael Guzman, liberal studies: "Three times per month."



Vester Bradsher, psychology: "Huh? What is that? Is it something that you do? God, I don't know."



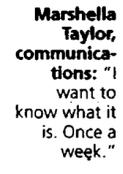
Edgar Padilla, nursing: "I don't."



Jessica Trujillo, psychology: "I don't think ever. Maybe I do, I don't know."



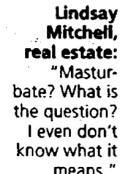
Roberto Santos, business marketing: "Masticate, hum ... every day."



Marshella Taylor, communications: "I want to know what it is. Once a week."



Joseph Smith, sociology: "Do I what? About two or three times a day, but no ... I don't even know what that means."



Lindsay Mitchell, real estate: "Masturbate? What is the question? I even don't know what it means."

Correct answer: People masticate or chew every day.

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Vol. 74 • No. 9

Bakersfield College

May 2, 2003



A finale of fireworks lights up the sky over The Marketplace on Sunday.

Stars in their Eyes

Community gathers to celebrate patriotic spirit at Marketplace rally

By JEFF EAGAN
Rip staff writer

For one day, Bakersfield could not be divided. At the Bakersfield Unites for the Stars and Stripes rally Sunday at The Marketplace, residents showed their unwavering patriotism while enjoying a host of musically eclectic bands. Several hundred people attended the event.

The rally attracted young and old, veteran and non-veteran, to show support for U.S. troops abroad, especially loved ones serving in Iraq. Several local Clear Channel radio stations and KERO-TV 23 sponsored the day full of tributes, dedications and support for the men and women in the military and the families they left at home.

The event also featured a booth to record video messages to troops, a wall that invited people to fill its space with handwritten personal messages and donation booths that sold patriotic wares such as American flags and T-shirts commemorating the rally. A gaggle of bands, including local product Mento Buru, the Mike Montano Blues Band, various local church choirs and more provided musical entertainment.

Adam Jones, 20, welcomed the ardent community support. This was the third annual Stars and Stripes rally, but the first for Jones.

Troops are real troopers for tolerating food rations

By JEFF EAGAN
Rip staff writer

From the desert borders of Kuwait, American troops have bravely fought all the way to Baghdad. Their tireless campaign to rid Iraq of the vile regime that once stood takes strong, willing and well-nourished soldiers.

FOOD REVIEW

And in the total war coverage that ensued on network television, I decided the best way to immerse myself into the action would be eating like a soldier.

To help the famished soldiers come the aptly titled military rations, MREs, or meals ready-to-eat. They are standard for all branches of the military and are often the only source of food for soldiers on the go.

During the taste test, I was able to procure two MREs care of the Army Reserve's 736th Transportation Company on Chester Avenue. The first ration I tried was from

Menu No. 6, beef frankfurters, a main course. When this came to mind, I recalled fond memories of cooking hot dogs over the campfire at night. But these frankfurters were the redheaded stepchild to the hot dog.

The instructions on the MRE tell you to throw the food packet in the cooking bag with just enough water to activate the chemical heater, which, under military caution, releases a flammable gas. After angling the MRE against a rock, the cooking bag balloons beneath the carton and, 10 minutes later, you have beef frankfurter a la carte.

The menu was careful not to let the beef franks assume a role beyond its importance, though. The ration offered other items such as the syrupy peach cocktail and the strange "potato stick" snacks, which were badly in need of some salt.

Oh, but Uncle Sam already thought of that, along with the coffee, cream, sugar, a wet nap, tissue, gum and, for good taste, a miniature bottle of Tabasco sauce — for what, I don't know.

The bland, tasteless crackers they included reminded me of chewing dry, crunchy cardboard, except this had some nutrition in it. But when has anything that's been good for you tasted good?

The only thing that made these wheat crackers bearable was smothering them in peanut butter and washing them down with the semi-sugary, lemon-lime concoction included in the meal.

And nothing made me feel more sorry for our troops than the despicable main course. In this case, the word "frankfurters" was just another culinary euphemism for "salty, processed beef logs."

If we want to support our troops, my first suggestion would be to stop feeding them the equivalent of re-thawed hot dogs nuked in the microwave way too long. Maybe I should make a peanut butter cracker delight with beef frank chunk topping. Mmmm, delicious!

The second ration, Menu No. 6, was of the vegetarian persuasion. It struck me as quite odd.

I didn't realize the military let in

ways show them that I care. They're always in my prayers, and I hope they come back as soon as possible," he said.

Although new to Bakersfield, Wayne Olson, 46, could sense the togetherness and the degree of the community's commitment to get involved.

"We wave the flag. (It's about) clapping, whistling and just being with people that feel the same way I do," Olson said.

Mayor Harvey Hall was on hand at the event

See RALLY, Page 3



Jordan Rollolazo waves a flag atop the shoulders of his father, Alan, during Sunday's Bakersfield Unites for the Stars and Stripes rally.

PHOTOS BY ROY LEE MAXWELL / THE RIP

Students hold mock funeral for education

Event organizer says proposed state budget cuts will bury college programs and students' futures.

By VICTOR GARCIA
Sports Editor

Tombstones sit on the campus, marking the remains of knowledge.

The Funeral for Education, a protest of proposed state budget cuts, was held on Wednesday in the Free Speech area at Bakersfield College.

On each tombstone, there was the name of a program or circumstance that would be affected by reductions. There were tombstones for EOP&S, growing economy, child

care assistance, hope and prosperity, among others.

The organizer of the event, Bethany Johnson, ASBC public relations senator, gave the first speech.

"As we mourn our losses today we must not forget that if we stay silent, the loss we see here today will become a disease that will completely overtake America with violence and poverty. As a mother, American and community college student, I plead with you today to come and stand behind me. Help keep our educational doors open," said Johnson.

Although only a few stopped to watch the event, Johnson was not upset about the turnout.

"This is for Davis. This is for Sacramento. This is for my community that isn't aware of how it's going to affect us. That's who it's for."

— Bethany Johnson,
ASBC public relations senator

"I know how my school feels, because I am very in tune with the See FUNERAL, Page 3

War, budget force choir to cancel trip

By COUMBA TAMBOURA
Campus Editor

Berlin and Prague would have been the next destinations for the Bakersfield College Chorale and Chamber Singers if safety and financial issues were not standing in their way.

This is not the first instance that war has interfered with the choir's travel plans.

In 1991, during the Gulf War, the Kern Community College District canceled a choir tour in Russia because of the uncertainty of the war situation. That scenario repeated itself this year because of the war in Iraq, according to Dr. Ronald Kean, music professor and director of choral activities at BC.

Indeed, since the United States was engaged in the Iraqi war, the district Board of Trustees decided that it was in the best interest to can-

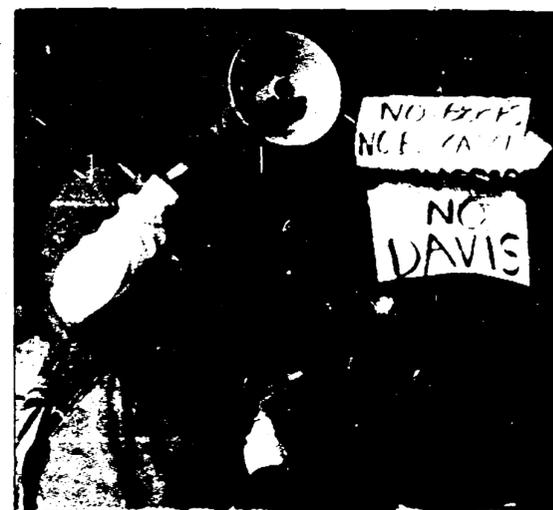
cel the tour, a decision welcomed by not only students involved in this project, but also their parents.

"We were just going to war a month ago and the threat of international terrorism against Americans was high. That's why students and parents of students wanted us to back out," said Kean.

However, he made it clear that the withdrawal was a voluntary choice based also on financial considerations.

According to Kean, about \$30,000 was raised in order to cover the cost of the tour, which was estimated at \$90,000. Each one of the 30 students involved in the trip was to raise \$2,000 for the remaining money. However, they weren't able to, so they opted for the cancellation, despite that each lost \$450.

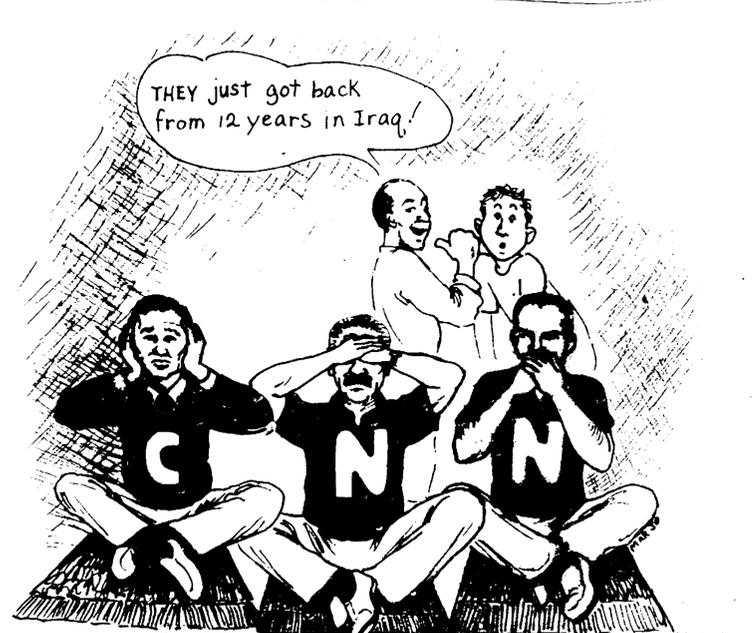
In addition, because of budget cuts and job losses, Kean felt it wasn't See CHOIR, Page 3



ROY LEE MAXWELL / THE RIP

Making some noise

Leon Arellano speaks out against budget reductions Saturday during a rally and march through downtown Bakersfield organized by M.E.Ch.A. See more photos, Page 4.



MAR JO JONES / THE RIP

Report no evil

CNN's silence on Saddam brutality slants views on war

By JENNIFER MILLS Opinion Editor

CNN needs to examine itself. It recently admitted to covering up the truth about Saddam Hussein's government for the past 12 years.

particularly those on our Baghdad staff," he wrote. "I came to know several Iraqi officials well enough that they confided in me that Saddam Hussein was a maniac who had to be removed."

part of taking Saddam out of Iraq. "At last, these stories can be told freely," Jordan's article read. "But CNN is not so heroic. If Jordan knew about this horror and decided to 'protect Iraqis' by not reporting it, why wasn't CNN at least in support of President Bush when we began to fight for the freedom of those same citizens?"

to inform the world of atrocities. Iraqis don't care about liberal or conservative bias, all they want to do is give their children a chance in life. "The poison that is war does not free us from the ethics of responsibility," said past war correspondent Chris Hedges, who was quoted in Goodman's article.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

History professor objects to 'insulting' teacher cartoon

I found the cartoon drawn by Mar Jo Jones on Page 6 of the April 4 edition of The Rip to be an extreme insult and affront to the professors and, by extension, the students of Bakersfield College.

The student who drew that cartoon should know, as should all of the student body, that many of us do not consider ourselves "stuck" at BC.

Bakersfield College has a 90-year tradition of excellence and service to the community, and many of our professors and students have found themselves in positions of authority, power and influence, such as House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Congressman Bill Thomas, who is still officially a faculty member at this institution.

On a personal level, I came to BC from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, for the express reason that I would have better benefits, the chance to own a home, and the opportunity to help students in a decent, if impoverished, community. (And for 12 grand more a year!) Because I work hard and because California rewards educators for their contributions better than



MAR JO JONES / THE RIP

other states, I am making a 40 percent larger salary than my friend, who graduated the same year as I, who is a professor at NYU. Like many of my colleagues, I am active in state and national professional organizations, as well as in community groups and charities.

DR. RANDAL BEEMAN BC faculty

Rich and poor Bakersfield residents live in separate neighborhoods

The Depression has always existed. The idea of welfare, meaning "insurance policy," has always been applied and today is localized. I live in Oldale. This is an example of a localized poverty area that I will use in my analysis. Oldale is a welfare proximity. Prosperity exists outside the surrounding area. Thus, there is a balance of rich and poor, the borders or areas, predetermined by the welfare condition set forth and the end of the Great Depression.

Great Depression created the separation of classes, upper and lower. Today, it is localized. "In the '20s, everyone invested in the stock market. This included educated and uneducated individuals. Applying the "Random Stock Market Theory" indicates that regardless of social status, individuals throughout our society suffered economic loss equally.

ALLEN FARMER BC student

'GADE NEWSLINE

ASBC elections set for this week The Associated Students of Bakersfield College will hold elections Tuesday and Wednesday in Campus Center. At press time, a list of those seeking office was not available from ASBC officials.

Band, dancers help celebrate Cinco de Mayo

Bakersfield College Cinco de Mayo festivities will kick off in the Free Speech area at 10 a.m. Monday. There will be a piñata for the children from BC Day Care, followed by one at 10:30 a.m. for students.

National Student Nurse's Day is Thursday

The BC nursing faculty will celebrate National Student Nurse's Day on Thursday in the Huddle at 1 p.m. Cookies and lunch will be served.

Nursing Department receives \$100,000

Bakersfield College will educate more nurses thanks to a \$100,000 gift from the Millie Ablin estate, donated by her children Dr. Penny Ablin and Todd Ablin.

Spring Concert to be performed under the stars

The Bakersfield College Chamber Orchestra and Ensemble will present "Pops and Other Things" on Thursday. In addition to works by Bernstein and Ellington, the BC orchestra will perform student composer Brandon Russe's world premiere of "How's That Dog Again?"

— Compiled by staff writer Daniela Williams



LAUPEL BARLOW / THE RIP

Bethany Johnson puts flowers on a Tombstone with her children, Luke and Katie, at the Funeral for Education in the Free Speech area Wednesday.

FUNERAL: Mock ceremony publicizes cuts

students. I am always interviewing and speaking to the students about how they feel about things," Johnson said. "This is for Davis. This is for Sacramento. This is for my community that isn't aware of how it's going to affect us. That's who it's for."

public relations. "We know that that job is going to change. Is that person going to go away? Not necessarily," Bresso said. "If we don't send that notice, then we can't change their job even if we didn't get any funds from them."

RALLY: Community shows patriotic spirit

Continued from Page 1 casually conversing with attendees. He spoke of the importance of having these kinds of events. "The event is to be able to show the caring and positive attitude of Bakersfield" and what average citizens can do, Hall said. "By donations, by spirit, you know there are families in the audience today, they can hear the air of support by being here and knowing that Bakersfield supports their loved ones who are fighting for our country."

CHOIR: Trip canceled due to finances, concerns about war

Continued from Page 1 appropriate to be raising money while others will be losing their jobs. To make matters worse, the music program itself will experience some drastic changes next semester since it will no longer be available as a major, he said. "That is pretty severe, especially for those who have gone through some of the program, and it is going to be very tough to recruit when there is no music major," Kean said. "Although the BC choir will miss the occasion to be one of the few singing groups to help perform "Paradise Lost," an opera electronic, in Berlin, the musical ensemble remains well-known.

Check out this week's online edition at www.therip.com to see more photos of events that you won't find in the paper.

Sports superstars don't deserve military honors

By JENNIFER HUBBELL Rip staff writer

The crowd was roaring in the MCI Center as Michael Jordan departed from the rest of the Washington Wizards and made his way to the center of the court to meet U.S. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld before the national anthem was to be played.

for many Americans, he didn't deserve to be honored like a military hero. Jordan was awarded the NBA Rookie of the Year in 1985 at the beginning of his professional basketball career. In the 18 years following that first prestigious award, Jordan was named MVP five times, won six NBA championships and was a participant in 13 All-Star games.

While Jordan has been an excellent athlete and a role model for many Americans, he didn't deserve to be honored like a military hero.

a society that recognizes celebrities to be heroes. Many families lost their loved ones in the 9/11 attacks and many more have lost their loved ones in the Iraqi war. Those families are the ones that deserve the recognition and they would have been able to appreciate such an honor much more than a basketball super-

stars and stripes. It would be even more fitting for such a flag to be presented to a real hero in our war against terrorism, such as Jessica Lynch, the 19-year-old POW who recently was rescued from an Iraqi hospital. She is the first American prisoner to be rescued from behind enemy lines since World War II, according to Newsweek.



MAR JO JONES / THE RIP

THE RENEGADE RIP

Editor in Chief Jarrod M. Graham
Online Editor Roger Hornback
Photo Editor Chris Keller
Opinion Editor Jennifer Mills
Features Editor Edith Obas
Sports Editor Victor Garcia
Campus Editor Coumba Tamboura

'GADE FEEDBACK

Compiled by Julian Jaquez / The Rip

What do you collect? Why?



Hector Zacarias, history: "Hats, and Nike shoes, because the girls like it and it's in style."



Tracy Perias, psychology: "I like to collect empty liquor bottles that are not often seen and put colored sand in them and place them on my shelves."



Ernesto Gomez Jr., meteorology: "The new quarters with the states, and pennies, because my mom and dad like them."



Pam Poolombat, nursing: "Old shopping bags; Nordstrom, Bloomingdale, Gucci, etc. Some look really nice."

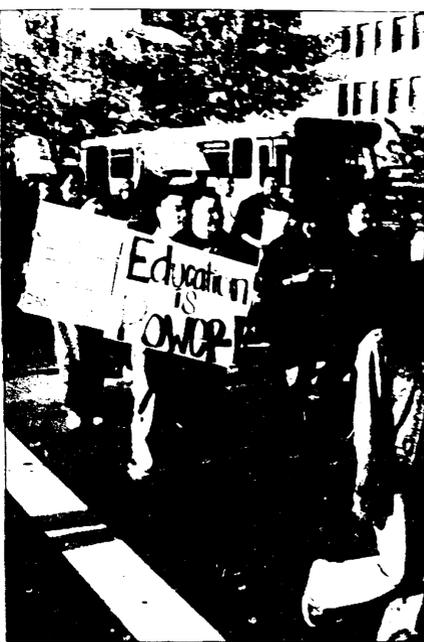


Carlos Cordova, undeclared: "Superman items. I've collected them since I was a kid."

Advertisement for Bakersfield College 2003 Summer Multicultural Journalism Workshop. Includes details about the free class, scholarship opportunities, and contact information for Kathy Freeman.

Advertisement for State Fund Career Education Programs. Features the slogan 'Waiting for your future?' and lists various career paths like Business, Medical, and Technical.

Large advertisement for State Fund featuring the headline 'The path you choose today can lead to tomorrow's success.' and 'State Fund Career Education Fund'.



M.E.Ch.A. protests state budget cuts

Bakersfield College hosted a statewide M.E.Ch.A. conference last weekend. As part of the conference, the group staged a march to protest proposed state budget cuts.

Above: Bianca Sandoval of UC Davis chooses the Liberty Bell as the backdrop for a speech.

Left: Club members march through downtown Bakersfield in protest. Approximately 200 students participated in the rally.

Photos by Roy Lee Maxwell / The Rip

Forensics team wins nationals

Bakersfield College team takes home gold medals for the top performance overall in sweepstakes and in individual debate events.

By EDELITH ORAS
Features Editor

The Bakersfield College forensic team took on a national tournament in Oregon and went home with the gold, according to speech professor Mike Korcock.

During spring break, the Phi Rho Pi Speech Honor Society held its national tournament for 10 days in Portland, Ore.

Four students from BC competed in two competitions, the team policy debate, and an individual Lincoln-Douglas debate.

About 450 students from 72 community colleges attended the competition, he said.

Korcock and Bob Lechtreck, a part-time coach, was able to accompany Lorann Casillas, Ken Dandy, David Collins and Jarrod Massey to the competition.

The BC team won first place for an overall performance in sweepstakes and overall in debate events.

Dandy and Casillas won gold medals in both events, while Collins and Massey won gold medals for the Lincoln-Douglas debate and silver medals for the team policy event.

"It was pretty exciting winning both events. It was definitely an experience," said Dandy.

BC competed against many larger schools, said Korcock.

"I enjoyed it, the competition was excellent," he said.

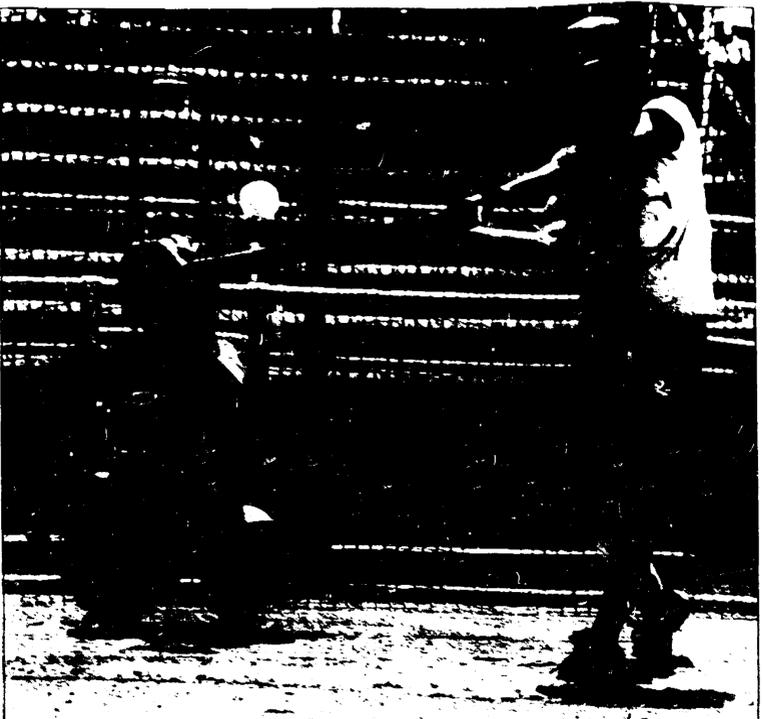
The forensics team has been around for more than 70 years.

Earlier this year, BC was awarded the McClintock Award for the best overall community college debate team of 2002-03 at the CEDA (Cross Examination Debate Association) National Tournament at Arizona State University.

BC was recognized for competitive success against other community colleges and universities as well.

The team also won the Select Trophy. It is an award for the top overall performance from all college programs with limited budgets.

The team also received second place, beating schools within the western region, including all CEDA schools in California, such as San Francisco State, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and Stanford.



Softball team heads to regional playoffs

Head coach touts determination of players on the field as a factor in their winning record.

By DOMINIC TROFFER
Rip staff writer

The Bakersfield College softball team has just wrapped up its best season in recent memory, with an overall record of 30-11.

According to longtime coach Sandi Taylor, the team is poised to make a run at this year's playoffs starting Saturday at Mount San Antonio College in Chino.

Taylor said it was player determination which made the team the most successful in her 12 years as head coach.

"Our success definitely has to be attributed to the players and their abilities," she said. "They will not be satisfied. They refuse to lose, so they work hard."

Players also appreciate the coaches' dedication to the team and said the coaches understand the double duty student athletes assume.

"They understand it's hard to come out here every day," said freshman Lindsey Vincent. "I love them to death."

The team has racked up 18 wins in conference play on its way to a second-place finish in league. The only three losses were handed to them by College of the Canyons, with two of those games decided by one point.

"It's a really good feeling to know that you're contributing to one of the best teams in BC's history," said Kimmie Sabedra, a sophomore and liberal studies major.

Oftentimes, members of any sort of team



Shelli Jackson runs down an infield fly ball during practice.

are singled out because of exceptional play resulting in resentment and a loss of teamwork. Bakersfield College has several standout players but they credit their success to their team. According to some players, it is the team mentality that will give them an edge in the playoffs.

"I think we have a really good chance because everybody just clicks and we work well together," said Kelly Arias, all-state and second team All-American, sophomore standout.

Regardless of how the playoffs pan out for this year's group, they have the satisfaction of knowing that they have been one of the best.

"Never give up and just keep going at it because you never know what the outcome will be on aid off the field," said Sabedra.

PHOTOS BY ROY LEE MAXWELL / THE RIP

Jennie Samarripas takes a swing, while catcher Shelli Jackson anticipates a strike, during practice.

It Pays to Read The Rip

Would you like a crack at winning a hundred bucks? If so, *The Renegade Rip* has an offer you can't refuse.

There are no flaming hoops to jump through and you don't have to run a marathon.

All you have to do is pick up the paper and read it.

This is your last chance to participate because we will draw the winner at 2 p.m. Monday.

Only one answer per question will be accepted.

The donated prize of \$100 in cash, hard cash will be presented to the lucky winner as soon as we can reach him or her. We also will publish the winner's picture in the May 9 edition, the last edition of the semester.

Fill out the answer form on the right. Clip it out and drop it off at The Rip office in Campus Center 1, right across from the cafeteria.

It Pays to Read The Rip

NAME: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____ E-MAIL: _____

QUESTION NO. 7: When is National Student Nurse's Day?

ANSWER: _____

The deadline to submit this week's entry is 1:30 p.m. on Monday. If you have questions, call Editor in Chief Jarrod Graham at 395-4324 or e-mail him at jarrod@rip.com.

Journalism

opens the door to your media career.

Sign up for fall classes online at <http://www.bakersfieldcollege.edu/>

Writers of Kern Presents
A Mini-Seminar for Writers
(or wanna be writers)

Saturday, May 17, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
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For information and reservations please call Peg Connolly, 399-0423 or e-mail mpeg@ad.com. Confirmation is needed by May 5.

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See our coupon in the classified section of *The Renegade Rip*.

When you've been up all night finishing that project for your English class and realize you don't have a folder for it, isn't it good to know we're open 24 hours?

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The 2003 Bakersfield College GRADUATION will be held Friday, May 16 at 7:30 p.m. in Memorial Stadium.

Bakersfield Quaker Meeting

—a Christian church of service

Quakers do not prepare for the society that is, but for the society that ought to be.

3200 N. Sillect Ave.
(Kern Regional Center)
661-205-5326
bakqrmtg@hotmail.com

Meeting time: Sunday, 9 a.m.

To learn more about Quakers: <http://www.fism.org/>

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Attention Graduates

You could win \$1,000.

Ashley Owens did.

Ashley was a student in the BC Summer Multicultural Journalism Workshop.

This year's free workshop for high school students interested in media careers will be held June 9-26.

To apply, call 395-4344 today.

Ashley Owens

Attention Graduating Students

Did you know that you can reduce the interest rate on your student loans and save thousands of dollars by consolidating your student loans after graduation?

The Higher Education Act, established by Congress, allows any graduate (or parent with PLUS loans) to consolidate their student loans by combining all their eligible student loans into a single loan issued by a new lender. Graduates who do this immediately after graduation (while they are still in their non-repayment period) are able to reduce the interest rate on all their eligible loans by 0.60% - potentially saving themselves thousands of dollars.

There are several other benefits associated with Student Loan Consolidation and these include:

- The ability to reduce your monthly interest repayments by up to 54% by extending your repayment period. This may help you in matching your income level to your repayment obligations.
- Fixing the interest rate on your loans to take advantage of the historically low interest rates that are currently available for the life of your loans. Your existing loans are variable and could rise over time as interest rates rise. Consolidation can ensure that this doesn't happen.
- Dealing with only one monthly loan repayment from one lender can make your life easier.
- Save even more on your repayments by taking advantage of "borrower benefits" that can reduce your interest rate by up to an additional 1.25% by making electronic and on-time repayments.

Does it Matter When You Choose to Consolidate?

Yes. If you are about to graduate (or have recently graduated) timing is critical to maximizing the amount that you can save with consolidation. If you wait too long to apply for consolidation, you might miss out on the opportunity to reduce the interest rate on all your loans by 0.60%.

What Does it Cost to Consolidate?

There are no fees or credit checks, nor is there any penalty for early repayment of your consolidation loan. Note however, that you can only consolidate once and consolidation can affect certain deferment and cancellation benefits associated with loans.

Are you about to Graduate?

Act now by registering with the Student Loan Consolidation Program (SLCP). It is free and involves no obligation. SLCP will simply provide you with information on what consolidation is all about and contact you after graduation to remind you of the opportunity to reduce your interest rate by consolidating early.

For more information, call a loan counselor at 1-866-311-8076 or click on our ad at www.thrip.com to see if you qualify for these savings.

While waiting the paper online, be sure and sign up for the email edition. It's the best way to stay informed beyond graduation, and it's free.

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Head Collie

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Clinica Sierra Vista will be offering HIV oral testing through the Kern Lifetime Project.

Current information available for attaining and maintaining optimal mental and physical health.

Call 395-4337 for information

sponsored by The BC Student Health Center

Bakersfield College

Ceramics & Glass Sale

Great Mother's Day gifts!

Monday, May 5 — 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Tuesday, May 6 — 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Fireside Room

Unique hand made pottery and glass created by local artists.

All letters to the editor should be submitted by Monday, May 5th.

Friday, May 9th is the last edition of *The Renegade Rip* for this semester.

Grace Van Dyke Bird Library Hours

Mon. - Thurs. — 8 a.m. - 7:45 p.m.; Fri. — 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Saturday — 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Closed Sunday

San Joaquin Wellness & Medical Group

Stars and Stripes Unite

Bakersfield residents come together to support American troops in Iraq



ROY LEE MAXWELL / THE RIP



ROY LEE MAXWELL / THE RIP

Left: Young Maximilien de la Hays of Germany enjoys the Beauty of Old Glory during the third annual "Bakersfield Unites for the Stars and Stripes" held at the Marketplace Sunday.

Far left: Bo-Bo the Millennium Clown kept spirits high with his balloon antics much to the delight of young Luke Heffernan.



SHAWN HOLLOWAY / THE RIP

Above: Two-year-old Michael Alcock watches the Spazzmanians during the event.



ROY LEE MAXWELL / THE RIP

Left: Vietnam veteran Manuel Galagarza shows his support for our troops.

BC BRAINS

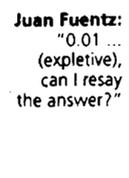
Compiled by Julian Jaquez / The Rip

Editor's note: BC Brains is a feature that asks students a question to test their knowledge of all things trivial.

The legal blood alcohol concentration for a 21-year-old driver is 0.08. What is the legal limit for an 18-year-old driver?



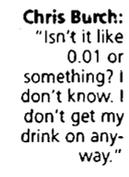
Teresa Canchola: "It's the same thing, isn't it?"



Juan Fuentz: "0.01 ... (expletive), can I resay the answer?"



Jessica Lee Madera: "There is no legal thing."



Chris Burch: "Isn't it like 0.01 or something? I don't know. I don't get my drink on any-way."



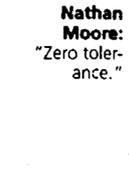
Elizabeth Favila: "There isn't one, but it's 0.05 if there was one."



Michael Hamilton: "0.04?"



Joseph Tabbt: "Isn't it illegal?"



Nathan Moore: "Zero tolerance."

Correct answer: There is no legal limit. People under 21 can't drink.

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A messy mix

Transplants' latest album produces a musical mutt.

Features, Page 5



Scaredy-cat

BC kitties' numbers continue to grow in Campus Center area.

Features, Page 6



Bring It Up

Are you aging and saggy? Well, this is the uplifting product for you.

Opinion, Page 2



THE RENEGADE RIP

www.therip.com

Vol. 74 • No. 10

Bakersfield College

May 9, 2003



Above: Alejandro Gloriz sings at the Cinco de Mayo event held Monday in Campus Center.

Left: Angelina Lara dances during the traditional celebration.

Lower right: Janitza Soto and McArthur Sampson perform a Cinco de Mayo dance.

Photos by Laurel Barlow / The Rip

Cinco de Mayo

Dancers celebrate cultural heritage during festivities in Campus Center

By VICTOR GARCIA
Sports Editor

Students came to Campus Center to hear the sounds of the Mariachi San Marcos and view the colorful folklorico dancers in a celebration of Cinco de Mayo.

Kids from the daycare center could be seen in the Free Speech area giving their best shot at hitting a fat, yellow cartoon piñata. Bakersfield College students also had their chance to hit a piñata after the children finished.

According to Ray Sminson, food service manager for the culinary arts program, there was carne asada tacos, refried beans and Spanish rice served as part of the event.

"The dancers from Cal State Bakersfield were excellent, always adds a festive atmosphere to the campus," said Manuel Gonzales, of EOP&S, who was in atten-

dance at the event. "It gives other students a chance to see the Mexican culture. That's what we're all about here on campus, learning about other cultures, other people."

Cinco de Mayo celebrates the Mexican Army's defeat of the French Army at Puebla, Mexico on May 5, 1862.

Student volunteers played a major role in putting on Cinco de Mayo at the campus.

"A lot of it is getting student volunteers to help out," said JoAnn Acosta, event organizer.

According to Acosta, more BC students participated in the event this year.

"I thought it was a great event that the M.E.Ch.A. students and the Chicano Cultural Center put together with the limited funds that they have," said Gonzales.

Eric Heinz, a 19-year-old history major, enjoyed the event.

"It was awesome," he said.



'I chose to do the right thing'

■ Facilities director Bill Rush expects to leave BC after a settlement is reached with the district.

By LORENZO MIRANDA
Special to The Rip

Bill Rush felt he needed to step forward, even if it was at his own risk to do so.

"I had a decision. I could either stay, shut up and go like it was business as usual. ... I chose to do the right thing," said Rush, Bakersfield College's facilities and construction management director.

And now Rush will soon leave BC following a settlement with the district. It all began when he decided to go see the Kern County grand jury.

In April 2002, Rush filed a complaint with the grand jury regarding BC's handling of contractors' use of utilities, wages and bid-splitting.

He maintained that proper procedures weren't being followed and

that the college was not receiving the amount of money owed it.

As a result of his complaint, the grand jury investigated. Once college officials learned that Rush went to the grand jury, he was placed on administrative leave in May 2002 and asked to leave campus.

During that same month, a voice-activated tape recorder was found behind a binder in Rush's office. An investigation soon followed but failed to reveal who placed the recorder.

While on leave, Rush filed a complaint with the State Personnel Board. It alleged that his forced leave was in response to his "whistle-blowing" about the construction irregularities.

During July, Rush was taken off leave and reinstated to his former position.

In November, the Kern Community College District was cleared of any illegal wrong doing in construction issues but the panel did recommend improvements in construction procedures, which were implemented by the district.

See RUSH, Page 3

Annual dinner helps build cultural bridges

By EDELITH OBAS
Rip staff writer

Imagine walking into a room for dinner with a long buffet line serving entrees and desserts from 27 different countries.

Bakersfield College international students held such a dinner in the BC cafeteria May 1.

This was the Intercultural Students Association's 20th annual fund-raising event called "Building Bridges Among Nations."

"As we work to eliminate terrorism and make the world a safer place to live in, let us not forget that trust, unity and peace between people and nations are built on understanding and communication," said International/ESL Counselor Shohreh Rahman.

From sushi to chicken adobo, hundreds of people were in line for a taste of a delicacy. There were 37 dishes served by 33 students.

"The food was good, oh my God! I forgot about my diet," said Janet Romero, a Bakersfield resident. "The food was wonderful, I ate two plates."

The hosts for the show were Nader Mojibi-Yazdi, from Iran, and



ROY LEE MAXWELL / THE RIP

Michelle Torrent wows attendees with a Middle Eastern belly dance.

Coumba Tamboura, from Mali. The introduction started off with See DINNER, Page 3

Woman's World magazine publishes work of BC student — twice

By DOMINIC TROFFER
Rip staff writer

Dana Martin has somehow managed a burgeoning career as a freelance writer and an aspiring romance novelist while juggling the schedules of her 9-, 11- and 13-year-old children.

The 32-year-old Bakersfield College student had her first article published in the March 17 issue of Woman's World.

She has followed that up with another article, sold this week to the popular magazine.

Although she is proud of the romantic short story that earned her \$1,000 in March, she admits Woman's World wasn't looking for her finest, most intriguing work.

"You have to make it as corny as possible," she said, explaining that editors want simple plots that are easy to follow and they don't want the stories nearly as racy as romance novels.

Martin had submitted several stories to

the magazine before a helpful editor explained to her that her stories were too complicated.

The March story that fit the magazine's formula was titled "Tea for Two," the story of two strangers who meet by coincidence and end up working together at a high school.

She should know about romance novels. She has been reading them since she was a freshman in high school.

"I can remember the first romance novel I ever read," she said. "I was a freshman in high school and it was rainy day, I found it in my mother's drawer and I was just so enthralled by it."

She did not put the book down until she finished it the next day.

Martin enjoys romance novels so much she began writing her own.

Recently, she took up a challenge put to her by a creative writing teacher and wrote a 50,000-word novel in a month, which averages out to 1,800 words a day.

With such a busy schedule, she couldn't

write 1,800 words every day. Sometimes she would have to play catch-up.

"One weekend I wrote 14,000 words," said Martin.

She added that her 17th century historical romantic novel, "Winds of Change," is currently entered in a contest that could give her a shot at having her work read by one of the top publishing houses.

Although she enjoys writing romance novels, she also has won acclaim as an essayist.

She has several top entries in the district's literary competition. In 2001, her essay, "The Elephant," placed third in the national competition.

She credits some of her success to her writing instructors at BC and sees her writing as a work in progress.

"Every year as a writer, your writing improves," she said.

Whether or not Martin realizes her dream of becoming a romance novelist, she always will have a thing for the books that made Fabio famous.



CHRIS KEELER / THE RIP

Dana Martin stands next to an article she wrote for Woman's World.

Peterson case causes Catch-22

Abortion advocates debate murder charge in the death of infant Conner

By JENNIFER MILLS
Opinion Editor

Laci Peterson was eight months pregnant the week she disappeared. And when she was murdered, so was her son, Conner.

While many anti-abortion activists agree that Peterson should be charged with two murders, this creates a double standard in the law when abortion is legal. Feminists should revisit their reasoning.

According to the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Morris County NOW President Marva Stark told a local newspaper that, "If this is murder, well, then any time a late-term fetus is aborted, they could call it murder. There's something about this that bothers me a little bit. Was it born, or was it unborn? If it was unborn, then I can't see charging (Peterson) with a double murder."

After Stark made this statement feminists were horrified, so she tried to back off of it by saying that she was only "thinking out loud."

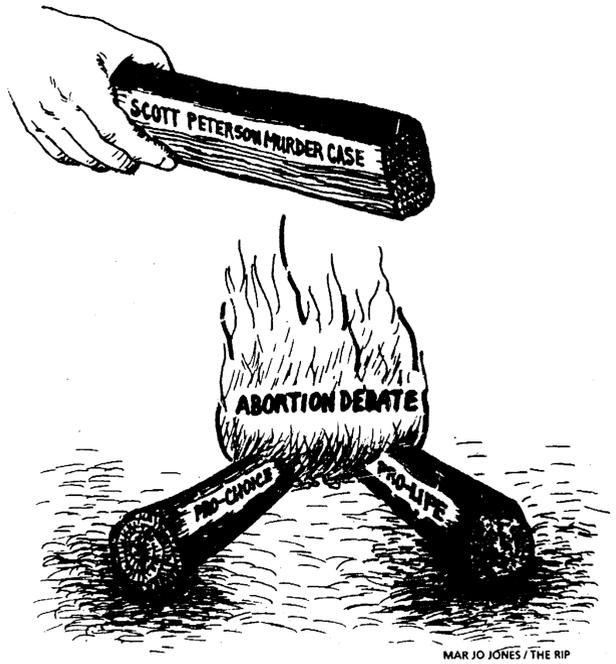
Thinking out loud is another form of reasoning. And Stark's thoughts were very reasonable. She noticed the double standard: You cannot claim that a child is a fetus when the mother aborts it, and then claim a fetus is a child when an-

other being murders it. But anti-abortion activists only see her statement as a threat to Roe v. Wade.

"It was a terrible thing. It's not nothing," said Stark. "The word 'murder' bothers me because we (in the anti-abortion movement) are attacked now. If you say that's murder, that means killing a fetus is murder, and it's a very slippery slope."

Stark is right again. So instead of calling it "murder," why not call it a violation of the mother's choice? Because, you can call it whatever you want, but when it comes down to it, a dog is a dog and a cat is a cat. When a pregnant woman is beaten so hard that the fetus dies, is that not the equivalent to a doctor aborting the child inside of its mother's womb? So if the issue at hand is a woman's choice, like feminists claim, then why is the issue so touchy? As the Democrat-Gazette points out, a family mourns Conner's death even if he never drew a breath.

If feminists can become so afraid of abortion being challenged by one statement made, then maybe Roe v. Wade should be revisited. It is time to make sure that the laws in all states recognize an 8-month-old baby as a person.



MAR JO JONES / THE RIP

FROM THE EDITOR
Jarrod M. Graham
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Editor bids fond farewell

As with all good things, my stint as the big cheese of this newspaper must come to an end.

I can't remember a year in my life more difficult — or more rewarding — than the time I spent as editor in chief.

In the two years before becoming editor, I served as features editor, campus editor, opinion editor and online editor.

But I was terrified coming into this job.

I'm a shy, quiet guy. I had never led a group of people in an endeavor as important as putting out a weekly newspaper.

I felt like I was flying by the seat of my pants, like I had no idea what I was doing. But I got through it, realizing something that those who have come before me know: Being editor in chief of *The Renegade Rip* is the toughest job I will ever love.

Before I conclude, I have some thanks.

The staff: You guys performed far above and beyond the call of duty on so many occasions. I can't thank you enough for the hours of work you put in to make this paper what it is. It was an honor and a privilege to work with all of you.

The editors: You deserve sainthood for tolerating my excessively anal-retentive personality quirks. Believe me when I say I'm not without sympathy for you, because I know I can be a royal pain in the ass.

Robin Johnson and Carol Barnett: If not for the efforts that you two put in, the journalism program would be nothing. You are the glue that holds *The Rip* together.

Kathy Freeman: What can I say? You have been my teacher, my mentor and my friend. Your wise words of advice and motherly nagging not only pushed me to become a better editor, but a better journalist. I am eternally grateful.

This isn't goodbye to *The Rip*, but it is goodbye to the "big chair." I'll be stepping into the role of copy editor to help ease the transition of my successor, Roger Hornback, into the sleepless nights and constant worrying that comes with being the boss.

To him, I offer this: Good luck, and may God have mercy on your everlasting soul.

Being editor in chief of *The Renegade Rip* is the toughest job I will ever love.



GERARDO DELGADILLO / SPECIAL TO THE RIP

Product creates a sticky situation

'Ultimate Lift Gift' product promises to save any sagging body part

I have seen the future for maintaining one's youth, ladies and gentlemen, and it is Scotch tape. All you need to do is take any body part that sags — neck, breast, forehead, and I shudder to think what else — and tape it higher.

"Who would be stupid enough to do that, much less manufacture its prototype?" you may be asking yourself. I'll tell you who: the makers of Bring It Up, a product which tapes your undesirable sections into a more appealing position. You could probably tape one of your breasts to your forehead and look like a Picasso painting if you wanted.

During one of my impressive bouts of insomnia, I fumbled upon an infomercial for this gaggingly ridiculous idea, and yet one, which goddamn it, I wish I had thought of.

By playing off the sad insecurities of aging women everywhere, I could be rolling around naked in a huge pile of money had I ever thought of



FIRST PERSON
Amber Garcia
SPECIAL TO THE RIP

combining wrinkles and something you can use to package your mail. Maybe I can fix a drooping ass with a staple gun... It just might work.

The Bring It Up brow, neck and breast lifts are pieces of tape you use to secure your skin into a higher position. They're supposed to be undetectable to the eye, but even if they were, wouldn't you feel incredibly stupid knowing you're wearing disposable tape to hold your ch-chas together? And what if your turkey waddle ever suddenly came loose from its binds during a very important presentation for work? Any sudden moves from you to correct the

situation and your forehead and ch-chas are likely to all come tumbling down.

The "Ultimate Lift Gift" kit includes brow, neck and breast lifts, plus an instructional video so you don't end up taping someone else's breasts to yours.

It also includes a headband, presumably to hold your hair back when you attach the brow lifts, but I'm not certain. If it's possible to make a product to tape your eyebrows to your forehead, it's also possible to make a product that is designed to actually pull your head up and making the back of it (which no one really cares about anyway) appear 20 years younger. It's a sick, sad world if a person can't go out in public anymore with the back of their head showing its true age.

This kit costs around \$50, which is outrageous when you consider you could do the same job at home with stuff you already have. Anyone who

has ever wrapped a Christmas gift already knows the art of taking a shapeless, unappealing wrapper and transforming it into a gift people are proud to shove underneath their tree to have Sparky relieve himself on.

There are tricks to stretching the wrapper, and ways of making the tape conceal little flaws and rips. Of course, these same people know it's not pleasant when you have to rip off a piece of tape from your forearm when you're wrapping 20 gifts and want to save time by precutting the tape and placing it all over yourself, instead of taking the time to cut each piece individually.

Being beautiful is no easy task, especially when you start looking like a hound dog, but can things actually get so bad that you resort to securing your body with disposable, sticky pieces of plastic?

Unfortunately, I have no time to answer that. I just ran out of Scotch tape.

else, and would prefer to be somewhere else.

We aren't dumb. We listen to instructors for hours at a time, and some are wonderful and some act like they are so bored and uninspired by us, you can't help but notice.

So if the gentleman who came to Bakersfield because he wanted a house and is proud that he makes 40

percent more than his NYU colleague is implying that there are no pompous professors professing to be disgruntled who wouldn't leap at the chance to work somewhere else, I think the article must've struck a secret nerve. Kudos.

STEFAN LAMBERT
BC student

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Student disagrees with criticism of teacher cartoon

I'm writing in response to a letter to the editor about a cartoon depiction of an instructor who feels stuck at BC.

This is how we students sometimes feel. It is very hard sometimes to communicate to teachers that feel

they know everything. Admittedly, the cartoon is extreme, but that's what a political cartoon is supposed to be.

I am so glad Dr. Beeman responded, because dialog is an essential step to start understanding and

improve.

I never got the impression that the artist or the editor implied that most or even a lot of teachers felt like they were stuck at BC, but we students are perceptive enough to sense when teachers wish they were somewhere

else, and would prefer to be somewhere else.

We aren't dumb. We listen to instructors for hours at a time, and some are wonderful and some act like they are so bored and uninspired by us, you can't help but notice.

So if the gentleman who came to Bakersfield because he wanted a house and is proud that he makes 40

'GADE FEEDBACK

Compiled by Shawn Holloway / The Rip

What are you doing for Mother's Day?



Nick Contreras: "Taking my mother out to dinner."



Erin Easter: "Spending it with my kids."



Joseph Carrillo: "Making my mom dinner."



Susannah Newkirk: "Get my mom a card."



Juan Jimenez: "Stay home and have a party."

THE RENEGADE RIP

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RUSH: District may settle

Continued from Page 1

Rush said in an interview this week that his complaint with the State Personnel Board would be settled out of court, possibly as soon as today, and he will leave BC.

"I never started this with the intent to gain money," said Rush.

Rush now plans to move to Texas to raise cattle on a ranch he owns. Even though he already has things set up in Texas, he believes that the situation there will have ended differently.

"I loved my job and I think I could do a lot of good for this campus," he said.

Dr. Sandra Serrano, BC president, refused to comment on any questions concerning Rush, stating that it is a personnel matter.

She did speak generally about BC employees, saying they have every right to seek due process.

"And this right is open to any employee and student on campus," she said. "People have a right to exercise their right to due process. It is just a belief that I have."

DINNER: Building bridges

Continued from Page 1

music from Africa. Dr. Ronald Kean, BC music professor, led the musicians.

The evening also included a dance from Peru with the members of the Peruvian Association, a fashion show with about a dozen models from many different cultures, belly dancing from the Middle East, salsa dancing and Mojibi-Yazdi playing the piano.

"It's wonderful, so people can know better about other countries," said 45-year-old Sonia Delgado of Bakersfield.



ROGER HORNBACK / THE RIP

A Jazzy Spring Swing

Director Jim Scully conducts the BC Jazz Ensemble during a recent performance at the Indoor Theater.

BC student wins \$100 in Rip contest

During a recent trip to Las Vegas, luck was not with BC student Karen Howeth.

"I was there for like five days and didn't win nothing," she said. But when she checked her answering machine on Monday, she found that luck had finally paid her a call.

"When I came home and saw the message on the machine that I won a hundred dollars, I was like, 'Yeah! Come home and win in Bakersfield.' So I thought that was really cool."

Howeth was the winner of \$100 in *The Renegade Rip's* "It Pays to Read *The Rip*" contest. The prize money was donated.

And just what does Howeth plan to do with her new-found wealth? "Actually, I will probably either pay a bill or get my windshield fixed on my car," she said.



Howeth

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SPORTS

Track team finishes season with high marks

Despite bad weather, athletes secure 19 spots at Southern California Regionals.

By LEANNE CAVE
Rip staff writer

Bakersfield College will be well-represented at the Southern California Regional Track and Field Finals at Memorial Stadium.

While the weather conditions made it tough for the athletes to compete at the preliminaries May 3, the 'Gades secured 19 spots (men and women combined) for the finals.

"The rain and wind factor made this a very difficult meet to stage and very difficult for athletes to compete," said Bob Covey, men's track and field coach.

"This is one of the toughest meets as far as competition is concerned because we face some of the most talented athletes in the state before we get to the finals."

Even though the day was cold and wet, the men's track and field events were hotter than the blazes and extremely competitive.

Jerome Miller showed why he's the state leader and undefeated in the 110-meter high hurdles as he recorded the fastest time of the event, (14.55 seconds). He also captured a third-place finish in the 400 hurdles (54.41).

Michael Mitchell placed fourth in the 400 hurdles behind Miller. Nick Craner had a positive performance for the 'Gades as he qualified for the finals in both the 800-meters and the 1,500.

The track didn't have much of a chance to cool off as far as the Renegade men were concerned.

Jason Lopes, the defending conference champion in the 100 and 200 kept the track warmed up winning the 100 and placing third in the 200.

"I'm really excited. Last year I did not qualify for the 100 meters, this year I made it in both the 100 and 200 meters," Lopes said. "A hamstring injury is really big for track athletes. I've been running hurt and it's like God is pushing me through. I'm winning my events."



Left: Glendale College's Naria Bagumyan lands in the water during the 3000-meter steeplechase event.

Below: Riverside's Stephen Norris throws a javelin during the track meet on May 3.

Photos by Shawn Holloway / The Rip



The men were also strong in the field events. BC qualified three in the hammer throw and three in the shot put. J.P. Fruguglietti, Brody Beecher and Leo Chaves qualified for the hammer throw, while Beecher, Chaves and Shannon Odom qualified for the shot. Josh Lopes rounded out the field qualifiers as he placed third in the long jump.

"The hammer throw is the hot event of the field event. It is the most competitive event in the state," said Covey.

The Renegade women also wrote their names in the track and field history books.

"We qualified nine for the SoCal finals," said Pam Kelley, women's track and field coach.

"That's a good chunk of people that we advanced. If we perform as well as we did in the prelims, we will have done well. We are very proud of our girls, we have been successful this season."

The M&M squad (Megan Clutter, Miesha Thomason and Miranda Lewis) led the way for the women.

"I call those three my M&M's," said Kelley. They have been solid in multiple events for two years."

In the field events, the women were impressive.

Megan Clutter placed first in the javelin throw with a 123-foot, 10-inch toss. Clutter, Vanntha Chann, Kathy Porter and Shelly Rice qualified for the hammer throw.

Rice also qualified in the discus as well as the shot put. Miranda Lewis made her presence

known as she qualified in four events, the javelin throw, the long jump, the triple jump and the high jump.

The women also had a good day on the track.

Miesha Thomason qualified in the 400 hurdles with a season best time of 1:06.35 and qualified for the 100 hurdles with a seventh-place finish.

In the 1,500-meter event, Adela Flores placed sixth while Brooklan Grimes finished 10th rounding out the top 12 qualifiers for the event.

"We kind of anticipated how the meet would go and we're proud of how our kids performed in the prelims," said Covey. "We have 19 spots to contest in the finals on Saturday. Field events begin at 12:30 p.m. at Memorial Stadium."

of them are blonde and tan and thus look exactly alike—even their personalities are so bland and dense that anyone watching the movie will not care about them.

Unless you too are blond and beautiful with the personality and intelligence of a dial tone. Then you will love this film.

We are introduced to a group of 20-somethings who have been picked to live in a house in Cancun, Mexico to be part of a "Real World" type of situation for a week. Among the walking Abercrombie & Fitch ads is Alan, a Texas boy who doesn't drink, causing his new roommates to

gasp in disbelief and secretly bet on who can get him to take his first tequila shot out of a complete stranger's navel.

He feels alienated because not drinking sets him apart from his roommates, who, on the opposite spectrum, take part in wet T-shirt contests, make out with anyone as drunk and tan as them, and shower together.

Although he is not very deep and sensitive, he is a Shakespeare love sonnet compared to his roomies.

We watch his metamorphosis from an insecure gerbil who says, "I'm not living my life the way I would like

"We just want them to compete like champions and always do their best. It's supposed to be 86 degrees on Saturday, a nice day for a track meet."

FEATURES

Experiment gone awry

Transplants' new album mixes punk, hip-hop parents to produce musical mutt

By JEFF EAGAN
Rip staff writer

Each sum is stronger than its whole. Is that how it goes? The Transplants self-titled debut album from Helicat Records delves betwixt musical genres with results that seemed welcome to the Bakersfield audience on their first leg of the tour with the Foo Fighters.

ALBUM REVIEW

The Transplant trio comprises punk veteran Tim Armstrong, of the Rancid and Op Ivy ilk, playing guitar in a musical experiment that tests the constraints of any preconceptions about punk with this record. Armstrong shares vocal duties with newcomer and friend Rob Aston.

Aston's screaming, rap style is reminiscent of Necro, but not as morbidly violent

and drug-addled. And to top it off, they've got a famous drummer, Travis Barker of Blink-182 infamy, who notably finished all the drum tracks in five hours.

Their songs attempt a fusion of clashing punk guitars with Aston's angry white L.A. gangster raps on "Romper Stomper." It crosses genres so readily, but not always with the best results.

On "Tall Cans in the Air," described by Aston as a party song, he exalts the joys of pounding twice the frothy crisp brew of a normal can. Maybe we'll see it in a beer commercial in the near future.

You might also have heard their hit single "Diamonds and Guns," a number with a catchy yet monotonous blues piano loop mixed with slurry vocal marmalade from Armstrong and the choleric, nervous raps of Aston.

It can be found on the likes of MTV2 and the wonderfully produced Garnier tropical shampoo commercials.

Many of the slower reflective and melancholic songs have a similar musical pattern.

Songs such as "Sad But True" and "We

Trusted" resemble the Clash in the "London Calling" era, as Armstrong resonates the vocal croon of the late Joe Strummer.

The more rap-influenced tracks, such as "D.R.E.A.M.," capture catchy, funky, synthesized beats care of Armstrong while Aston retells the Wu-Tang cover in his nefarious and controlling world of drugs.

The strange thing is when I first heard this album, I tried to instinctively find something to compare it against.

Oddly enough, I had heard a compilation of local musicians from Chico and the band that stood out was El Diablo. Their amateur experiments in hip-hop, bass and drum beats, and thrash metal produce a model edgier and simpler in design, yet not intentionally.

The Transplants, on the other hand, have failed to capture the fickle nature of splicing music genres to produce a uniquely satisfying record.

I felt that during the Transplants' live show, any musical distinctions they tried on this record were totally obscured. Or maybe their combinations and musical controversies will turn lethal. I suggest that you just listen to it first.



Tim Armstrong of the Transplants sings during a recent performance at Centennial Garden.

If you're dumb as a dial tone, 'The Real Cancun' is for you

By AMBER GARCIA
Special to The Rip

If director Rick De Oliveira's goal was to make a soulless film whose only purpose is to star beautiful, blonde people, he was very successful with "The Real Cancun."

MOVIE REVIEW

The film has so many characters, all of whom are shallow and self-absorbed in their very own special way, it's impossible to keep track of them. This is made more difficult by the fact that most

of them are blonde and tan and thus look exactly alike—even their personalities are so bland and dense that anyone watching the movie will not care about them.

Unless you too are blond and beautiful with the personality and intelligence of a dial tone. Then you will love this film.

We are introduced to a group of 20-somethings who have been picked to live in a house in Cancun, Mexico to be part of a "Real World" type of situation for a week. Among the walking Abercrombie & Fitch ads is Alan, a Texas boy who doesn't drink, causing his new roommates to

gasp in disbelief and secretly bet on who can get him to take his first tequila shot out of a complete stranger's navel.

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Although he is not very deep and sensitive, he is a Shakespeare love sonnet compared to his roomies.

We watch his metamorphosis from an insecure gerbil who says, "I'm not living my life the way I would like

'The Real Cancun'

• Director: Rick de Oliveira
• Running time: 1 hour, 30 minutes
• Summary: Sixteen American college students drink, flirt, fight and canoodle during their spring break vacation in Cancun, Mexico.
• Now showing: Pacific Theatres, Edwards Cinema, UA East Hills
Source: Internet Movie Database.

but I spent my spring break cleaning and doing two weeks of math homework. And yet I feel it's really because these characters are sad shells of actual people, whose limited intelligence is spent on themselves entirely. It's like looking into the eyes of a dead fish—there's nothing there. It makes us not care about the characters and the film that's pushing them on us.

The only amusing part of the film was that apparently there are no actual Mexicans in Cancun, only beautiful blonde blondes, and I assume that was unintentional on the part of de Oliveira.

But perhaps I'm looking too deeply into a silly little film about spring break which goes nowhere in terms of a plot and uses equally annoying pop music in its soundtrack.

"The Real Cancun" is a party in which we have been cordially invited, and ultimately, which none of us want to crash.

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FEATURES

When Cats Do It

'Wild' times among feral felines at Bakersfield College result in overpopulation of Campus Center

Story by DANIELLA WILLIAMS • Illustrations by MAR JO JONES

A wild bird cries as I prowl through the jungle. Crocodile hunting is for sissies: I'm in search of bigger game. Steve Irwin, eat your heart out.

A bush rustles, but, alas, it is not my prey. The locals tell me that they inhabit a strange land called Campus Center, but so far, the cats have proved elusive. The BC cat may be a wily species, but I'm hot on its trail.

The cats of Bakersfield College are a mystery. No one seems to know when they first appeared, or why they chose Bakersfield College to house their tribes. From unknown origins, the cats of BC have evolved into their own unique legend, passed on through BC students. I knew about them long before I attended BC; a friend's older sister told the tale.

The most noticeable cats inhabit both Campus Center and Veterans Memorial Plaza, which has been referred to as the "giant litterbox" by some, though there are other colonies around both the administration and science buildings.

On a tip, I am told that there are those who know the cats well. To aid in my search, I call in an expert. Accounting Supervisor Edwina Rauser, of Business Services, has been caring for the cats for around four years. Although she is on good terms with the felines, Rauser doesn't encourage students to try to get close to them.

"I never try to pet them; they are wild animals," she cautioned.

A feral cat is a wild cat, unused to human contact. Aside from stinking up the place at times, the BC cats are gen-

erally harmless if kept out of the food preparation areas, said Matt Constatine, said Kern County Animal Control Manager Matt Constatine.

"The only real health hazard is the potential for rabies exposure," he said.

Senior Library Technician Carol Paschal began to feed the cats about a year ago, but also traps, spays or neuters and releases those she catches to help decrease population growth. A pair of cats can produce two or three litters per year. According to

www.feralcat.com, two cats could potentially produce 420,000 cats over a seven-year period.

"I realize that their population needs to be controlled so it won't be a problem," she explained.

Sometimes the wild-eyed felines look as if they can take down a small antelope when working as a unit. A lack of food left the cats emaciated, on the verge of extinction, so some began feeding the cats in the Veterans Memorial Plaza area.

"Some people would prefer that we didn't feed them, but fed cats are healthy cats," Paschal said.



THEY NEVER GRADUATE



Anatomy classes use kitty cadavers as learning tools

By DOMINIC TROFFER
Rip staff writer

Although cats could be considered Bakersfield College's unique natural resource, those dissected in basic human anatomy classes are not harvested from the abundance of cats which live on campus.

Instead, kitty cadavers are obtained through biological supply houses, which get their supply of cats from overpopulated animal shelters, according to biology professor Dr. John Ackland.

He said that there are three cats or dogs for every man, woman and child in the United States, making cats an abundant resource for dissection. Each cat corpse

costs \$30 apiece. With 24 pairs of students dissecting cats this semester, it cost the school \$720.

Basic human anatomy is a required course for many students at BC. The class takes students on a journey through the human body. Along the way, they learn every part of the human body. Some would say the most dreaded part of anatomy is the notorious cat dissection.

Ackland has been teaching at BC for 33 years, and overseeing the in-depth look at the insides of man's other best friend for 22. He said the initial reaction of repulsion or fear of dissection is always gone after the first day.

"At first they're a little squeamish, but

once they do it, they loosen up," he said.

According to Ackland, the only surprises he receives are when students find internal oddities, such as hernias or parasites.

Most students agreed that the worst part of the dissection was the first day. Many said it was because the first day is when they skinned the animals, leaving fur on only the head and paws and cutting off the tail. Others said it was only a matter of rolling up their sleeves and getting their hands dirty.

"It's kind of shaky at first but once you cut it open and get inside, it's kind of cool," said Jonathan Coston, a sophomore, psychology major.

One thing that is noticeable when en-

tering Ackland's classroom and the students have let the cats out of their bags is the smell. Students had a lot of theories about the smell, some said it was the internal fluids or the partially digested stomach contents like cat food and chicken, which sat next to the cat carcasses in a little pile. Still others said the smell comes from an intangible source.

"Death, it smells like death," said Casey Pinheiro, a nursing major.

Students' stomachs also are spared from dealing with blood spilling out of the cat every time they make an incision with their razors. The preservation process suspends the cat's blood as a stringlike solid substance.



ROY LEE MAXWELL / THE RIP

Biology professor John Ackland, left, guides Albert Araujo, Deanna Ninomiya and Crystal Mendoza through the dissection of a cat.

BC BRAINS Compiled by Shawn Holloway / The Rip

Editor's note: BC Brains is a feature that asks students a question to test their knowledge of all things trivial.

What is a shuttlecock?



Henry Chatman: "I think it is the cockpit for the shuttle."



Adriana Gonzales: "It's a cockroach."



Josh Saso: "I don't have a clue."



Rachel Ramirez: "A shuttle that transports chickens."



Nolan Graf: "It's a chicken that goes in outer space."



Heather Tomeslan: "It's the main game piece for badminton."

Correct answer: A shuttlecock, or "birdie," is a rounded piece of cork or rubber with a crown of feathers or plastic that players hit back and forth in the game of badminton.

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