



FROM THE EDITOR

Jarrod M. Graham
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Why you must contact our state legislators

Next fall, you can expect fewer classes, instructors and employees here at Bakersfield College.

California facing a massive budget cut, Gov. Gray Davis has offered a proposal to drive the budgets of the state's community colleges into the ground.

These are not like the budget cuts in years past. Administrators have been forced to cut the bit here and a little bit there to make the ends meet.

The cuts are all-encompassing and will have a significant impact on the quality of instruction and programs at Bakersfield College.

The state's commitment to education is being eroded. The quality of instruction is being reduced in the community colleges can suffer.

Students and faculty already have problems. The elimination of many on-campus study programs, and many students rely on to help pay their bills.

We may not be able to stop the cuts cold, but we can try to lessen their impact.

Students should call their legislators and let them know how they feel about the cuts.

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President Dr. Sandra Serrano introduces instructor Chris Romanowich to explain how all programs will evaluate their budgets.

PHOTOS BY JULIAN JAQUEZ / THE RIP

Budget knife cuts deep

Entire college community will feel pain of \$6 million reduction, predicts BC president

By EDELITH OBAS
Features Editor

Dr. Sandra Serrano, Bakersfield College president, urged students and employees to take action against a proposed \$6 million budget cut that will eliminate classes and some jobs.

"This is a call to action. It is time to become vocal, it is time to get angry, it is time to write, call and fax your legislators and all of the legislators on the budget committee," she told those at an all-college meeting Jan. 31 in the Indoor Theater.

Serrano explained proposed state budget reductions, their potential impact on BC, students and employees and encouraged the campus community to lobby against the cuts.

She explained two types of reductions that will occur. The first is a midyear reduction, which will cut \$1.2 million in scheduled maintenance money and instructional equipment money from BC this year. Because the district already has made cuts, she said she hopes the midyear reduction won't affect the college.

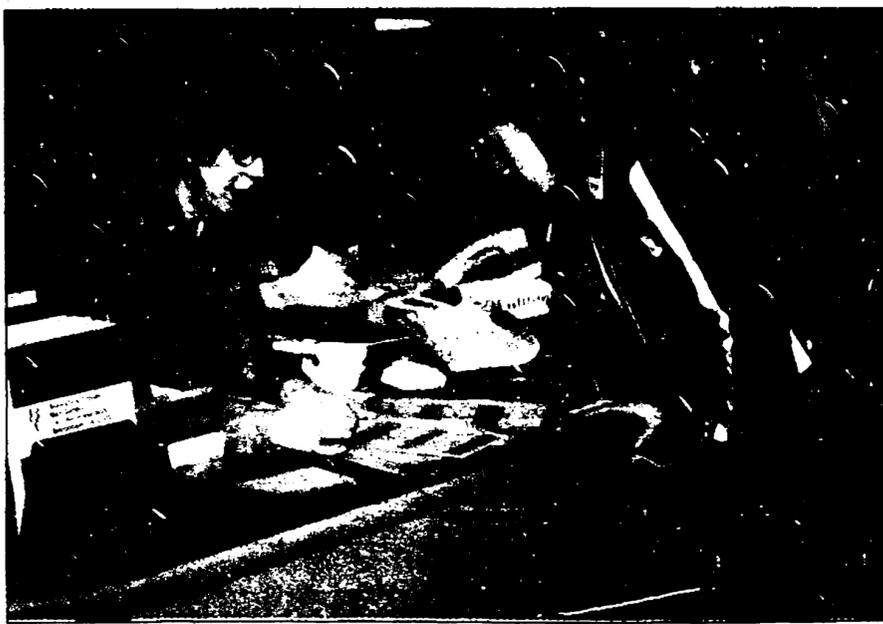
The second is a \$5 million reduction, a devastating 10 percent.

"That is far greater than we've ever had to do in the 14 years I've been here," said Serrano. Every program on campus will be evaluating its budget and the students it serves within the next few weeks. A budget committee then will recommend cuts for next year.

Serrano described this as "redefining" what See MEETING, Page 4



Ken Meier, BC's vice president of student learning, talks about the importance of community colleges.



ROGER HORNBACK / THE RIP

Librarian Marci Lingo helps liberal studies major Hannah Lamas with a question.

Students foot bill for deficit

■ Increase in enrollment fees amounts to a tax on students since the money returns to the state.

By DOMINIC TROFFER
and DANIELLA WILLIAMS
Rip staff writers

Bakersfield College's students and faculty aren't pleased about a proposed tuition increase that will more than double education costs, and they are even less pleased with the fact that the money will be going to the state deficit.

Marci Lingo, a Bakersfield College librarian and English teacher, points out that the fee increases will not go to the college.

"The community colleges are not keeping the tuition increases (to make up for cuts in budget). It is going straight to the general fund."

What that means is, the tuition in-

crease is more like a tax on college students rather than a true raise in tuition, which would benefit the school.

"I think it's unconscionable," said Dr. Greg A. Chamberlain, BC dean for learning resources and information technology, about the looming fee increase.

Next semester, BC may be a different campus, forced to cut 10 percent of its budget, roughly \$6 million. On top of that, the state will raise tuition to \$24 per unit.

Students like Kristen Gupton, a 19-year-old who hopes to become a Web designer, will have to skip her vacation this summer to make the money she will need to pay an additional \$13 per unit.

"I can't take a vacation this summer because of how much it is going to cost me next semester."

Eric Rumbo, a 20-year-old liberal studies major, said that there is no room for cuts at BC.

"I think that all the classes that they provide here are a necessity for [what somebody] wants to major in," he said.

Sandy Iniguez, a 20-year-old history major, doesn't know why community colleges are being asked to make up the difference in the state budget.

"I think if they need money ... they shouldn't go to community colleges. People are here because they don't have money. Maybe they should go to private colleges (for funding) where they can afford it," she said.

Kim Widger, a music minor and a registered nurse, wants her tax dollars to benefit schools, not be cut from them.

"I think it's a shame to cut education. I pay mucho taxes and I would much rather pay on education and health any day."

In the next two weeks, all programs at Bakersfield College will be See TUITION, Page 4

Programs for disadvantaged face brunt of massive reductions

By LEANNE CAVE
Rip staff writer

Students with disabilities and those with low incomes may be hurt the most by reductions in programs and services.

Two specially funded programs, Disabled Students Programs & Services and Extended Opportunity Programs & Services, are expected to be cut by 43 percent if the governor's proposed budget passes, according to Tim Bohan, director of supportive services.

"We recognize that these cuts will have a great impact on the services that students with disabilities are entitled to," he said.

"The cuts will affect the enrollment of low income and students with disabilities because they will limit the access to programs and services for these students."

Dane Geer, a blind computer technology student who works at BC, said he got the job because of the federal work study program.

Even low income students who receive assistance from the state

will be hurt, according to Manuel Gonzales of EOP&S.

"There will be educational disadvantages, especially for first-generation college students," Gonzales said. "It's ridiculous. Especially cutting funds for people with disabilities at the High Tech Center."

EOP&S assists low income students with financial aid, counseling, tutoring and books.

Bohan and Gonzales said all students may feel the brunt of cuts.

Teachers already are discussing this in some classes.



Manuel Gonzales

"They're talking about a bunch of cuts," said Alan Poggio, a computer program major. "They want us to write letters so our voices will be heard."

See PROGRAMS, Page 4

Fee waiver not expected to be bogged down in cuts

By JEFF EAGAN
and TIFFANY UPTON
Rip staff writers

The proposed budget cuts will not affect students who receive the Board of Governors Fee Waiver, or BOGW, says Joan Wegner, director of financial aid.

The BOGW is a state-supported grant program to waive the enrollment fee for eligible California residents.

It is available for students who have already qualified for other types of financial aid, and for students who have exceptionally low incomes, in-

cluding recipients of AFDC, SSI or General Assistance.

"About 40 to 45 percent of students receive the BOG (waiver)," Wegner says.

The majority of students interviewed who are on the program were aware of proposed state budget cuts, but said they were not worried.

Angelica Vargas, a psychology major, has worked long hours to pay for the costs of her education before.

"I have BOG so it really wouldn't affect me," Vargas says. See WAIVER, Page 4

OPINION

FIRST PERSON
Jennifer Hubbell
OPINION EDITOR

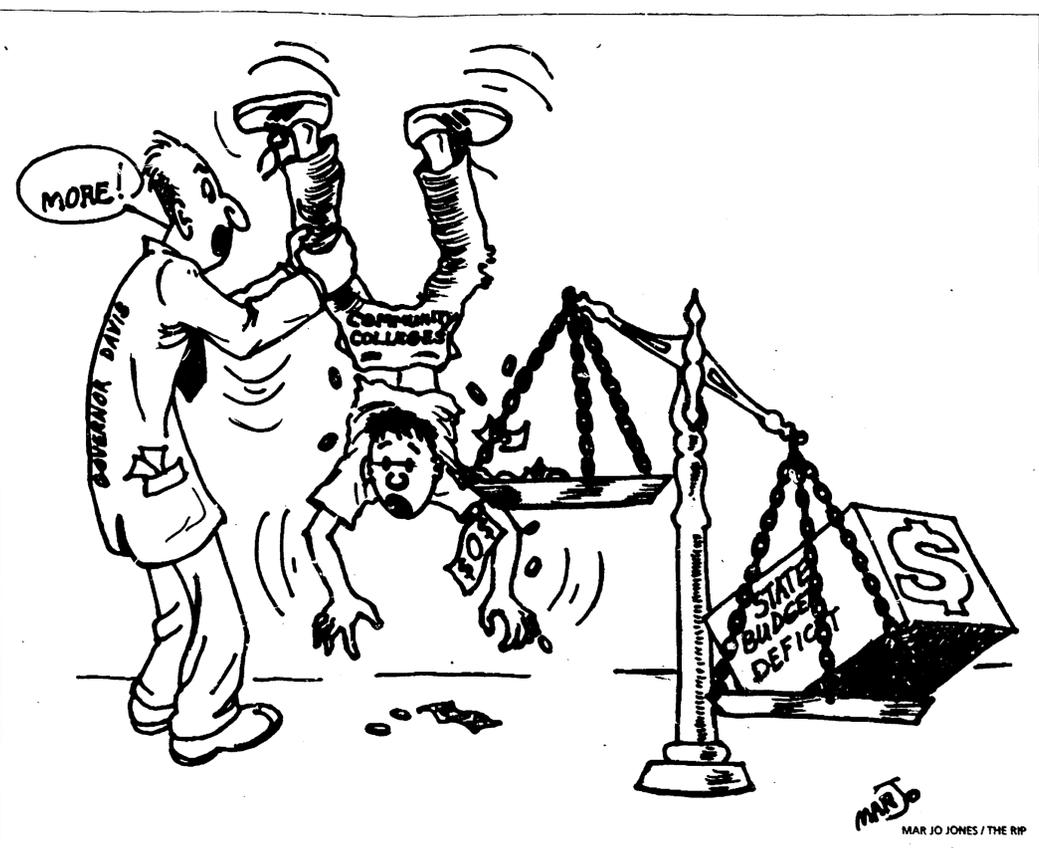
Quick fix of budget may last lifetimes

How many students are going to be quitting school because they can't afford to continue?
With tuition fees being raised for the coming semesters, the question of "How am I going to get through school," is one that many students now face, including me.
I am taking 17.5 units in an attempt to get through school as fast as possible so that I can start building my career. With the existing tuition fees, I have to work 40 hours a week just to keep up with my finances. I know that I am not alone in this situation.
There are many students on this campus, and on campuses across California community colleges who work, attend classes, and study all hours of the day and fit in sleep when they can.
The answer to this dilemma would be to double the number of hours in a day, to match the doubling of tuition costs, so that students can pick up a second full-time job, but we all know that is just not possible.
Another solution would be to go from being a full-time student to a part-time student and spend twice as long in school. While this may be practical financially, staying in school longer would not be welcomed by working students.
While the state legislators are wrestling with solving the budget deficit, they are not looking at the long-term effects on our economy and the consequences of having a lack of educated professionals in all areas of society. If the current college population cannot afford to obtain their degrees and complete their career goals, the state is going to be in serious need of qualified professionals.
Who is going to take care of these legislators when they need medical attention?
Who is going to educate their children, if the majority of current college students cannot afford to finish their educations?
The quick fix tactics of the state legislators could negatively affect our economy for years and years to come.

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How will cuts affect you?
Tell us how you feel about the budget cuts online by writing us at www.therip.com.
All letters to the editor should include your real name and a telephone number where we can reach you for verification.



For students, it's time to raise hell

By JENNIFER MILLS
Rin staff writer

Three thousand students in Kern County will be pushed away from affordable education next fall. And 200,000 students in California will be set back from opportunity, unable to achieve their education and career goals.
All of this will happen because of a state budget deficit that is expected to increase community colleges' per unit cost to \$24 and cut Bakersfield College's budget by \$6 million.
Bakersfield College doesn't get to keep student tuition to better our programs. Instead, it goes straight to our state's general fund. Our state government then determines how much money will be given back to the colleges. And for community colleges, that isn't much.
According to Michele Bresso, BC head of marketing and public relations, although kindergarten students do not pay for their education, their schools receive more money per student from the state than community colleges, which are attended by students who pay hundreds of dollars for their educations.
In fact, the state only gives community colleges a percent of the money promised per student.
Unlike community colleges, UCs and CSUs have the power to raise and lower their own fees, which offsets budget cuts. But BC's tuition increase will go right back to the state.
So what is going to happen to high school graduates not able to afford four years of college? How will mothers coming off of welfare learn to support their families?
Next year, they will have fewer course choices, fewer programs and fewer teachers.
No one can turn back time and stop California's budget deficit. But there is something everybody can do to let the legislators know that the students at Bakersfield College are angry.
So what will you do to be heard?
Will you write a letter to your state legislator telling them how the budget crisis affects you?
Do not let your voice go unheard. It's time for students to scream, shout and raise hell.



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'GADE FEEDBACK
Compiled by Roy Lee Maxwell / The Rip
If you were in charge of BC, how would you save money?
Joey Romley, undeclared: "I would increase class sizes as well as provide better and more appealing fund-raising activities."
Tara Evans, liberal studies: "We could increase the amount of theater events held on campus to help cover school cost. Also I would decrease financial aid benefits... to help cover the deficit needs."
Mark Hernandez, liberal arts: "Instead of raising the cost from \$11 per unit to \$24, I would only raise the cost to \$15."
Misty Coston, theater arts/fashion design: "Require all sports to share funds from events liberally with other campus functions."
Aaron Casas, undeclared: "I would increase class sizes, and try moving required courses to larger on-campus venues. We could hold necessary classes such as English in the Forum!"

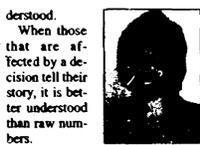
OPINION

ADMINISTRATORS SPEAK OUT

Bakersfield College 'cannot be paralyzed'

Editor's note: The following is an excerpt from an interview with BC President Dr. Sandra Serrano on Jan. 31.

I believe that students need to be aware of how their futures are going to be affected by the drastic budget reductions proposed for education, but specifically California community colleges.
I believe if students don't understand the impact of the budget reductions, then those in Sacramento who will be able to take action to minimize the impact are going to feel that we can manage through this magnitude of cuts, and the fact of the matter is we cannot manage through this magnitude of cuts and still provide the comprehensive educational program with which we're charged and is in response to what our community needs.
Already this semester, we're receiving — I'm receiving — e-mails and phone calls from students saying, "I need one more English class. I need one more philosophy class. Can't you add one more section?" And while we'd like to add one more section, it does take money.
Our faculty are already adding more than the maximum enrollment. To open up another section means hiring another faculty member, but if we don't have the resources because I have to find \$1.2 million or \$2 million in the current year's budget, then, in essence, access is being denied.
The reason students need to be come involved is because it's always the human element that is best understood.



DR. SANDRA SERRANO
BC president

When those that are affected by a decision tell their story, it is better understood than raw numbers.
Are the numbers staggering? Three thousand residents of our community are expected to be denied access to higher education, to work-force preparation. Is that staggering? Yes. But when you know that that's Jarrod or Sandra or Molly or the like, and the fact that maybe they have a family and they need a job or they're the first in their family to attend college and they have these dreams, and it means that they're not going to be able to become gainfully employed by next year or three years from now, I think those are the stories that move people.
If students don't become involved, I foresee that we will have to implement the magnitude of reductions that are being proposed by the governor.
While the community colleges and Bakersfield College are prepared to be a part of the solution to the budget crisis, we cannot be paralyzed.
And what we're looking at is the potential of not being able to meet the needs of this community, which is truly our mission. That is why we exist. We exist for our students and community.



MAR JO JONES / THE RIP

Increase a 'tax on students who can least afford it'

Bakersfield College is facing the greatest fiscal threat since its inception nearly 90 years ago. The California budget crisis, with its series of impending budget reductions, does not bode well for our students, our employees or our community.
The state budget shortfall has already had serious consequences for BC and the Kern Community College District. This past spring, the college cut approximately \$1.7 million from its budget. Now, "midyear adjustments" in funding would be effective almost immediately. Bakersfield College can expect to lose another \$1.1 million. The next round comes from next year's budget. Bakersfield College is facing a \$6 million budget reduction if the governor's proposed budget is approved for the 2003-04 school year. These reductions represent more than a 17 percent reduction in BC's

funding base over the course of 18 months.
On top of this reduction, the state is proposing to increase student enrollment fees from \$11 to \$24 per unit.
Community colleges will not receive any of this increase. It is not generally known that the colleges do not keep revenues from student fees, as do the other two California higher education systems. Instead, the money will be used by the state to fund other areas of its budget. In reality, this fee is a de facto tax on the students who can least afford it.
The results of these actions will be disastrous for students. Bakersfield College and other community col-

leges will offer fewer class sections and services with fewer faculty and staff members to perform the work. The Community College League of California predicts that more than 200,000 community college students will be denied access to classes statewide, more than the entire undergraduate enrollment of the University of California!
BC also will be forced to serve more students in the long run with less money. The national average funding for community colleges is approximately \$6,500 per student. A year ago, it was \$4,000 per student at BC. The impact of the proposed cuts will reduce community college funding per full-time equivalent student to the \$3,300 level. At the same time, the state is proposing to increase the overall budgets of the UC and CSU systems.
The California community college

system is quite simply the largest higher education system in the world and one of the most underfunded. It is a travesty that just when community colleges have become the entry point for more than 65 percent of higher education students and 60 percent of minority students, they are being asked to accept a disproportionate decline in funding.
Bakersfield College is doing all it can to reduce programs and services in a way that will have the least impact on students, but everyone at BC will feel the pain. That's why our legislators must hear from each of us. It is time to send them direct messages to encourage their support of Bakersfield College and of the community college system throughout California.
Write your legislators. E-mail them. Tell them how the disproportionate cutting of community college funding

is going to affect your education, your communities and families.
Remember that, as we gear up for another war and continue to fight terrorism here and abroad, real national security depends not on how many guns or divisions we possess or even the size of the gross domestic product. Real national security resides in the skills, abilities, education and contributions of a well-trained and committed work force.
Without the capacity to educate our people to the highest possible level, there is less security and prosperity for us all. If ever there was a need for students and a critically informed citizenry to express themselves about equity and justice in the educational system, this is it!

KEN MEIER
BC vice president
of student learning

Some ideas on what to say

This letter was prepared by Michele Bresso, BC's director of marketing and public relations. It offers students a basic form to follow if they decide to contact state legislators regarding the budget crisis. Administrators urge students to write now before a budget plan is passed.

Dear legislator:
As a student at Bakersfield College, I am urging you to support California community colleges in the state budget. The governor's proposed cuts to community college funding, combined with a proposed increase in enrollment fees, will be harmful to my education and my future.
While I attend classes at Bakersfield College, I am (working full-time, raising a family or some other personal characteristic). Education is expensive, but I am working hard to make a better life for myself and reach my career goals.
The proposed funding cuts will mean that fewer classes will be available to me on campus. Services to college will be less able to provide me help in completing my education, and the proposed funding cuts will mean that my education will be more expensive. I think it is unfair that community college students are being asked to pay more money for less education.
The budgets for other public education institutions in California are not being cut as deeply as the community college budgets. Community colleges already receive less funding per student than UCs, CSUs and K-12. Now you are proposing to cut even more! Why are the students, those who can least afford higher education costs, being singled out in this way?
These proposed budget cuts will hurt all students' efforts to build their careers. Without the classes and training students need, it will be very difficult to get the kind of jobs we're seeking. This is sure to have a devastating impact on the economic well being of our community and the state as a whole.
Please support Bakersfield College and all the California community colleges by voting for adequate funding for these institutions, which are the backbone of California's economy.
Sincerely,

How to contact local legislators

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Roy Ashburn
18th District
District offices
901 Tower Way
Suite 202
Bakersfield, CA 93309
or
5001 California Ave.
Suite 105
Bakersfield, CA 93309
323-0443
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FINDING OUT WHO REPRESENTS YOU
Visit www.leginfo.ca.gov/yourleg.html. Type in your ZIP code and the site will come back with contact information for the legislators who represent you.

WAIVER: Those on BOGW won't be affected by higher fees

Continued from Page 1

"Two years ago I couldn't get none of that (BOG) and I paid for everything. I paid for my books, I paid for my classes, but I worked a full-time job to pay for all that and it wasn't too difficult at \$11 a unit, but at \$24 a unit, that's crazy. I know that if I couldn't get BOG I wouldn't be able to afford it."

Some students like Monica

Martinez, who doesn't receive the grant, depend on their parents.

"My parents don't like paying for school, but they do. They would rather me go to school," she says.

Jennifer Unruh plans to transfer.

"I'm not going here next year so it's not going to affect me. I'm already transferring," she says.

Tim Daugherty, another student, predicted that the fee increases will

not affect him too much.

"I got financial aid and all my classes are paid for by the state."

But a student who did not give his name says the cuts will hurt everyone at the college.

"Some people think it's a second-rate school and they're starting to represent that."

— Sports Editor Victor Garcia contributed to this story.

PROGRAMS: Low income and disabled students may be hurt most

Continued from Page 1

heard. "Cause if we don't say something about it, it won't get said and nothing will get done."

Poggio said some teachers fear summer school may be affected.

And students are also concerned about the \$13 per unit increase, which is expected to take effect in the fall if the governor's proposed budget passes.

"I heard about it, it sucks!" said Amy Shackelford, a liberal studies major. "I don't want to pay money that doesn't help us here at Bakersfield College," she said, explaining that unlike fee increases at the UCs and CSUs, the fees will go back to the state.

"This is a community college where everyone has a chance. I don't see that happening with these cuts."

Athletes also are concerned about the potential cutbacks in programs.

"We wouldn't have anything,"

said Diana Adame, a political science major and cross country runner.

"We would probably have to buy our own equipment and our reputation might suffer. People would stop coming to BC because it would be hard for students to make it, especially those that receive scholarships."

Bohan said that community college administrators are encouraging students as well as faculty statewide to write the Legislature and let officials know that these cuts are going to have a great impact on students at the community college level.

If enough public pressure occurs, legislators may amend budget proposals to reduce the amount of cuts community colleges must make.

"Our chances? Your guess is as good as mine," Bohan said.

— Sports Editor Victor Garcia and staff photographer Anissa Candelaria contributed to this story.



Dane Geer, a computer science major, works in the cafeteria.

CHRIS KEELER / THE RIP

MEETING: 'I expect March 15th notices'

Continued from Page 1

BC does. The process is necessary "so we can look carefully, look how we will redefine what we will do day in and day out," she said. "And when you're looking at a \$6 million reduction, we will have to redefine what we do."

She estimated that if approved the governor's proposal for community colleges would keep more than 200,000 students from attending throughout the state.

"Two hundred thousand students in California attending community colleges is greater than the entire undergraduate enrollment of the University of California," she said. In Kern County, the college district would be unable to enroll 3,000 students.

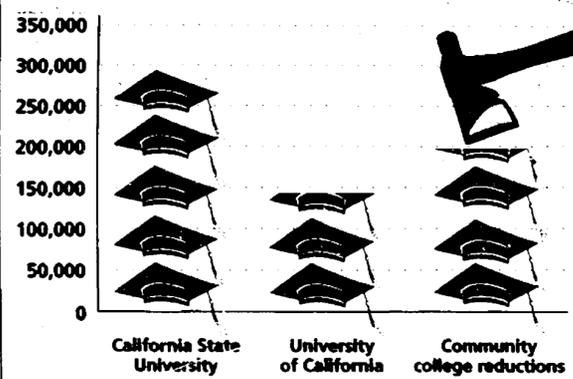
"It's going to impact every one of us, all of the 'me's in this room, all of the 'me's that didn't come here today, including our students."

While BC does not expect to issue layoff notices on a large scale in March, some employees, especially those in specially funded programs, can expect notices, she explained.

"I expect there will be March 15th

How reductions affect thousands

More than 200,000 community college students, more than the entire undergraduate population in the UC system, will not be able to enroll if proposed state budget cuts are approved.



Source: www.ccleague.org

JARROD M. GRAHAM / THE RIP

notices and that there will be some of those in management/administration, some in the classified branches that will receive these notices.

"Within the faculty branches, I believe those that are contingent on funding will definitely receive notice. Those that are temporary will probably receive a notice. I want to be open and honest with you. I do expect March 15th notices."

She also explained that even with fees going up from \$11 a unit to \$24 a unit as proposed by the governor, that money will not stay with community colleges. Instead, it will be

used to bail out the state deficit.

"If our students are going to pay more, we should be able to provide more."

However, community college students will be paying more and receiving less, since programs and classes will be cut.

Allied health instructor Chris Romanowich is a member of the committee that developed a questionnaire being used to evaluate programs, classes and their costs.

"We have an opportunity to take a really comprehensive look at what we're doing," she said.



LAUREL BARLOW / THE RIP

Dr. John Gerhold discusses possible impact budget reductions may have on campus fine arts classes.

Will BC fine arts classes be spared from cuts?

By COUMBA TAMBOURA
Campus Editor

Fine arts classes might be cut next semester due to their high costs and smaller number of students.

"The arts tend to be more expensive to teach," said Dr. John Gerhold, department chair of the Fine and Performing Arts at Bakersfield College.

In addition to the high cost of equipment and supplies needed for music and theater classes, Gerhold explained how art classes are more likely to be impacted by the budget crisis.

"English classes are required for everybody's program whether they are art, biology or psychology majors," he said, "so those classes required only for a particular major are more likely to be cut especially if it is a small major where you don't have that many students."

With three classes already canceled in his department since the beginning of this semester, Gerhold said that "cuts probably won't affect faculty or students for the spring semester."

However, for the fall, things seem uncertain due to the major reductions community colleges face because of the state deficit.

"We don't know about next year but we expect to have to cut about 10 percent (collegewide) from what we are spending for next year," Gerhold said.

Even though BC has encountered financial difficulty in the past, it has not faced the type of reductions being discussed for next year, Gerhold said.

"This particular budget crisis sounds like we probably will lose jobs, not just faculty, perhaps administrators," he said. "Certainly, we will lose classes."

Some courses that are considered valuable for students but not indispensable are more likely to be cut from programs.

"We are asked to look at what classes do we have to offer in order to maintain the integrity of the program," he said.

But for Gerhold reducing classes will only make matters worse.

"Because the fees are going up, that already hurts the students, so obviously reducing the options they have for classes hurts them again."

Instead, he suggested looking first at other ways to make budget cuts without reducing the number of classes.

"There are a lot of things the college does that are not instructional programs. Hopefully they will look at those just as closely as everything else."

"There are a lot of things the college does that are not instructional programs. Hopefully they will look at those just as closely as everything else."

— Dr. John Gerhold,
Fine and Performing Arts chair

TUITION: Students, faculty react to proposed fee increase

Continued from Page 1

evaluated. When the dust settles, students may find a very different school next semester.

There also is talk that some faculty members may face layoffs.

Steve Eso, a psychology professor and president of the faculty union, said if it becomes necessary for mass layoffs, a process called "bumping" may be instituted, where senior faculty members can bump less experienced instructors or adjunct faculty, who then lose jobs.

While he hasn't heard anything official yet, faculty members should know if they'll have a job in the fall

"I mean, we don't know where the cuts are going to come ... but it is the students who are going to be the people who are sacrificed."

— Marci Lingo,
BC librarian

by March 15.

"Right now, it's like trying to hit a moving target," he said. "Is it gonna be high? Is it gonna be low?"

Classified staff members also have been concerned about possible reductions in staff, an issue that has been in negotiations for months. Janet Skibinkski, a classified union official, could not be reached for comment by press time.

Lingo knows that staff will be affected but believes that students will feel the brunt of the impending changes the most.

"I mean, we don't know where the cuts are going to come ... but it is the students who are going to be the people who are sacrificed."

— Editor in Chief Jarrod M. Graham contributed to this story.



Photos by Chris Keeler / The Rip

In Honor of Gov. Gray Davis ...

Bakersfield College welcomed Gov. Gray Davis with open arms when he visited the campus in June 2001 for a summit on economic development. His visit was so special that a marble plaque was placed in his honor in a flower bed located in the Campus Center. The plaque

remained there Monday afternoon when the photo on the left was taken. But sometime Tuesday someone stole the plaque commemorating the governor's visit, according to BC campus security officials. The photo on the right was taken Wednesday afternoon.

THE RENEGADE RIP

www.therip.com

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Bakersfield College

February 21, 2003

Students split in views on Iraqi war

By JENNIFER MILLS
Rip staff writer

While America's war on terror lingers on, the war on Iraq is just beginning. At Bakersfield College, students both support and oppose the idea of closing in on Iraq, and its leader, Saddam Hussein.

Though many believe that it is necessary for something to be done about terrorism against the United States, they are unsure about the way President Bush is handling it.

"I believe that it is necessary for something to be done about Saddam Hussein," said Sean Purcell, a freshman anthropology major. "However, I think that for Bush to do something would be inappropriate."

Purcell also said that it is the United Nations' place to do something about Iraq.

"If they are not, then something has to be done about the U.N.," he said.

Other students, however, believe that the United States is going in the right direction.

"Saddam Hussein has been trying to get after us for years, and so I think it's time that justice is served," said Brandon Rodriguez, a sophomore child psychology major. "He hasn't agreed to lay down his weapons and put his biochemical warfare stuff away, so if he is going to disobey, yeah, I think that justice needs to be served."

If the United States does declare war on Iraq, many are unsure about the amount of time needed there, but most agreed that our troops will stay as long as necessary to take care of business.

"As long as the American public thinks we need to be (there)," said Stephanie Gardner, a sophomore student majoring in business administration. "I think it should be up to us. We are going to be the ones fighting, so I think it's going to be our decision."

Rodriguez also said he believes that we will be there as long as needed.

"I couldn't tell you really, just however long it takes," he said. "We have everything we need if we do go to war, all our resources are intact. (So) I wouldn't say more than a year."

Some students said that instead of fighting terrorism overseas, we should start at home.

"If we are going to go after terrorism, we have to start at home," said Gardner. "We went from Osama bin Laden to Iraq. Why don't we finish Osama bin Laden first, then go after Iraq."

Others, however, said that the war against Iraq is the same as the war against terror, and the two are not so far apart.

"If we can kill two birds with one stone and do it all at the same time, then go for it," said Rodriguez. "If we don't take care of what's in Iraq now, there might be even a bigger problem with terrorism (later)."

Whether or not a war occurs, students' views differed on the impact of the draft, should it be reinstated.

"I would gladly go and fight for our country,"

See IRAQ, Page 4

Right: Janet Skibinski, president of the classified union, leads staffers in protest.

Below: Campus security Officer Augie Gutierrez marches with other classified staffers Feb. 13 outside the Weill Institute in downtown Bakersfield.

Photos by Chris Keeler / The Rip



Security faces uncertain fate

Members of the college's classified staff union protest plans to fire and then re-hire officers at lower pay scales.

By DOMINIC TROFFER
Rip staff writer

More than 100 people wearing red, white and blue California School Employees Association T-shirts picketed in front of the Bakersfield College Weill Institute.

They said they were there to protest the treatment they received from the college's administration in negotiations about the fate of the campus security force.

"By law, we have the right to negotiate (the contracts of BC's security). Management decided no longer to negotiate with us and basically told us they were going to lay everybody off, and then re-hire under the new classification (at less pay)," said Mike Noland, the labor relations representative for CSEA, during the protest Feb. 13.

Noland also said administrators could not produce any documents to prove they had the right to take this course of action.

Others within CSEA were equally frustrated with the admin-

istration's handling of the security department.

"To lay off for a lack of work is illegal, because there was not a lack of work, just a change in job description," said Janet Skibinski, president of the college's CSEA chapter.

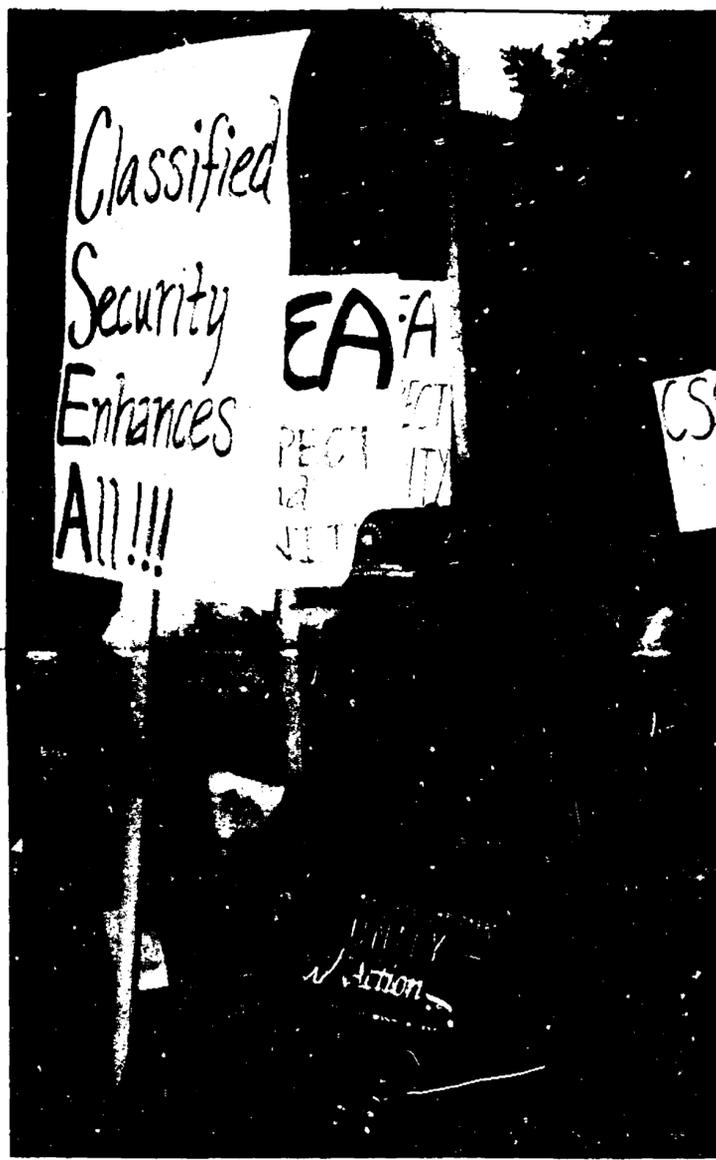
Michele Bresso, BC's director of marketing and public relations, responded to the allegations, saying that the fate of campus security will eventually be decided by the district's Human Resources Department. Ray Quan, the department's director, could not be reached for comment.

Although the CSEA represents a variety of classified employees, the protesters' signs indicated that they were all upset about recent actions against school employees.

"There was not an open spirit of communication and who really suffers is us as a community," said Doug Moore, an energy manager in his fifth year at Bakersfield College. Moore also said he had never received such treatment while working at other colleges.

According to Noland, college officials are reassigning employees without negotiating with the union, which he maintains is a contract

See CLASSIFIED, Page 4



CSEA officials say they plan to file an unfair labor practice charge against the college.

NACAC promotes cultural awareness

Event offers a look at several facets of American Indian culture, from dancing to survival techniques.

By VICTOR GARCIA
Sports Editor

Gary Pickett carefully shaped obsidian into an arrowhead.

Pickett demonstrated the art of flint knapping at the Native American Cultural Awareness Club's recent event in the Free Speech area.

"Flint knapping is basically the production of stone tools; spears, arrowheads, anything like that. There's properties to the stone that apply physics. Rule the stone and you just manipulate the physics," said Pickett.

The demonstration was one of several at the Feb. 10 event which featured American Indian dancing and music, crafts, wilderness survival and information on health issues.

"Basically what we're here to do is to promote Native American culture awareness, just to let them know that we're here on campus," said April Martinez, the club's president. "We want to promote awareness in our culture, in our traditions and also just to get the community involved in what we do."

Everyone was invited to enjoy the event.



RANDY BUTLER / SPECIAL TO THE RIP

Richard Lonewolf, a wilderness expert who teaches a class on survival, demonstrates some techniques he uses.

"This is not only an activity for Native Americans but also for those ... who are interested in becoming more into Native Americans and what they stand for," Martinez said.

Dancers wearing traditional costumes demonstrated various styles to the playing of the buffalo drum.

"Different songs have different meanings," said Jackson Copeland, a drummer.

The same also goes for dances.

"The last song we sang was a woman's (song) honoring elderly women. That's why it is a little slower for them to dance to,"

Copeland said.

Richard Lonewolf, a wilderness survival expert, was on hand to promote his wilderness survival class.

"Where we are right now in history, it would behoove you to take a class of mine. The store gets shut down, we're in a war, you gonna wish you knew this stuff," Lonewolf said.

NACAC has meetings twice monthly in the Student Conference Room. The club's adviser is anthropology instructor Caroline Webber. For more information, call 395-4232.



ROGER HORNBACK / THE RIP

Air ball

Harlem Globetrotter Chris Richardson scores a slam dunk during a performance by the team of perennial winners at the Centennial Garden on Feb. 7. See story and photos, Page 6.

Black history events mix education with art, entertainment

By TIFFANY UPTON
Rip staff writer

The African-American Student Union and the Martin Luther King Jr. Center of Bakersfield College have a number of events planned in recognition of Black History Month.

Speakers, films and entertainment in celebration of the month recognizing black culture are planned.

The AASU raffled off products such as Mary Kay and a teddy bear for the week of Valentine's Day.

On Thursday, it hosted "An Evening of Jazz" in recognition of black music, which was expected to feature a variety of artists at 6 p.m. in the Fireside Room.

On Wednesday, a talent show featuring hip-hop, the other side of black music, is planned.

"We have a dance group and some rap groups for that day," said Terry Matthews, president of the AASU.

The Martin Luther King Jr. Center is lending a hand in celebration of this month by showing students the educational side of black history.

So far, the center has shown films, hosted speakers and displayed art for the students.

The center will host "An Evening of Poetry" at Barnes & Noble Booksellers on Saturday at 7 p.m. The community is welcome to attend.

Novelists from BC and California State University, Bakersfield, are expected to share some of their best poetry.

See BLACK HISTORY, Page 4

OPINION

A Time For Cultural Reflection

By JENNIFER HUBBELL
Opinion Editor

For the past 77 years, February has been dedicated to educating Americans about the history and culture of African-Americans. But how often during the month, or the year even, do you hear anyone mention the man who started the tradition of Black History Month?

For years, African-Americans were viewed by many as "a race of men which has never created any civilization of any kind," as Professor John Burgess, the founder of Columbia University Graduate School of Political Science once said, according to an article from the June 1995 edition of Ghana Review.

Dr. Carter Godwin Woodson began his crusade to inform the public of the history and influence of the African-American race on American society in 1915, when he founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. One year later, Woodson established the Journal of Negro History.

Black History Month was actually started as Black History Week in 1926. It wasn't until 1976 that the week-long celebration was expanded to become a monthlong event.

Woodson "fervently hoped that soon the history of African-Americans would become an integral part of American history and would be observed throughout the year," according to historian John Hope Franklin.

February is significant to African-American history because of the births of such influential people as Abraham Lincoln and



MAR JO JONES / THE RIP

Frederick Douglass. The promotion of Black History Week began with a circular that Woodson would create and distribute in advance, mainly to educational institutions, that would outline significant events and individuals that he thought should be studied and emphasized.

But the significance of black history extends beyond any single month. For example, without the contributions of Martin Luther King Jr., where would civil rights be in this country? King taught Americans that change could occur and hope, indeed, was alive.

It is important for all of us to know our heritage. Black History Month is a wonderful way for African-Americans to gain recognition for the influence they have had in America and educate others about equality, dignity and respect.



CAMPUS VOICES
Terry Matthews

AASU plans busy spring semester

Yes! We are back and better than ever. Bakersfield College's African-American Student Union is blowing off in 2003. This year is going to be bursting with an abundance of activities and events for our organization, making it one of the most successful on campus.

We held elections Dec. 4, and this year, our AASU executive positions are filled by an elite group of people that promises to dedicate themselves to the betterment of our student union. They are a motivated group that we are exceptionally proud of: Terry Matthews, president; Farid Allah, vice president; Candice Mackey, secretary; Kenya Kindle, treasurer; David Stencil, activities leader; and Misty Coston, ICC representative.

AASU's common objectives include establishing a lecture tour for high schools and community colleges; giving insight and encouraging African-American students to continue their educations; establishing a news medium that will inform African-Americans about new programs and services available to them; and engaging in the study of black history, U.S. history, California history and government history while fostering the growth of BC's Martin Luther King Jr. Center.

Our immediate goal is to initiate a "drama-free" inspiration to our African-American classmates, creating an accessible place of comfort for them. The AASU is an elite organization here at Bakersfield College that deals with political issues and social activities.

But more so, the AASU is an organization with family values, and has that good 'ol home feeling of brotherhood and sisterhood. This is an organization where you can come and let your hair down, take your shoes off and read a book, and at the same time develop good study habits and self-assurance, exhibiting yourself as a role model among our classmates.

Once you become a member, you become part of the AASU family. We are here to address the needs and concerns of our student body. Our objective is to expand the enrollment of African-American students here at Bakersfield College and to facilitate a well-furnished organization, enabling students of all nationalities to come and receive guidance in any way, shape or form.

Since the genesis of the AASU, we have succeeded in reaching our full potential, but I dare you to watch out for us this year. This year, we will be working with the Cal State Bakersfield AASU to expand our reach that much further. We are returning with a whole new "flava," and just a few notches up from the past.

On Jan. 25, the AASU officers attended the Black College Expo in Los Angeles. As a club, we're planning to attend the Soul Train Music Awards, also in Los Angeles. This month, we will be hosting "A Love Jones Event." This whole month of February, Black History Month, AASU will be very active and we are going to show off at Bakersfield College like never before.

We will be visiting select high schools to recruit students for next semester. We also will be traveling to Magic Mountain on College Day in May.

This is just a glimpse of what AASU has in store. We believe in getting things done. We believe it only takes one to make a change, and if we as students come together, we will make a positive mark not only on Bakersfield College, but the world. There is nothing better than positive people. To unite as one, nothing can or will stop us, the African-American Student Union of Bakersfield College!

Matthews is the AASU president.

Rocked like a hurricane

Scorpions steal show during '80s concert at Centennial Garden

By JEFF EAGAN
Rip staff writer

As I entered Centennial Garden that night the hallways were crammed with a motley assortment of busy, leather clad middle-aged women, aging metal heads, and the occasional mullet. I was sure it wasn't the '80s, but the nostalgic atmosphere and festive enthusiasm could have fooled me.

CONCERT REVIEW

Fervent metal veterans vocalized their excitement and suspense with yells that reached even the most remote snack bar.

It would be a night not soon forgotten as the powerhouse trio of hair metal acts Dokken, Whitesnake, and the Scorpions, descended upon Bakersfield.

Out of the three acts that performed it was headliner the Scorpions who stole the show and proved the most entertaining band that night.

The dark-filled arena teemed with the din of anticipation as a giant Scorpions sign slowly lowered from the ceiling and the fog filled the stage.

The crowd erupted into cheers as German metal's flagship, the Scorpions, exploded onstage in a fiery assault on the senses.

Lead singer Klaus Meine's English was barely intelligible over his German accent when addressing the crowd. However Meine's dynamic voice was hardly obscured by the gnashing guitars and power drums when he led a verbal melee with the crowd on such classics as "No One Like You."

After they brought me to a sort of anti-climax, lead guitarist Matthias Jabs blew me away with his technical virtuosity on the six-string in a blistering guitar solo. How could they top that was the question? "Big City Nights" was the answer and they were only halfway through their set.

As Scorpion's drummer James Kottak delivered a marathon 10-minute drum solo, he thusly proclaimed to the crowd, "This Bud's for you" while emptying a beer over his face.

When the Scorpions reemerged to play one of their greatest hits, "Winds of Change," numerous costume changes had taken place and rhythm guitarist Rudolf Schenker proudly



ROGER HORNBACK / THE RIP

David Coverdale, the only remaining original member of Whitesnake, entertains fans during recent concert in Bakersfield.

I couldn't have envisioned a more ideal ending to a night of rock 'n' roll fantasy.

Coverdale managed to make the night romantic with a stirring rendition of monster ballad "Is This Love." Beneath the feathery blond mane shone the permanence of Coverdale's allure which left working mothers and housewives alike erupting into screams at the mere touch of his hand.

Whitesnake waited until the last song to unleash "Here I Go Again" to an audience warmed with overpriced beer, singing and clapping in unison.

Opener Dokken, originally from Sacramento, played to the eager crowd as lead singer Don Dokken gyrated onstage in tight leather pants. They played a handful of tunes including "In My Dreams" which stirred anyone not already standing to get fist pumping in the air.

But above the flashing lights and fog machines it was the music that brought everyone here. And for some it's a flashback they'll never want to leave.

Student involvement offers various opportunities



ASBC NEWS

Nader Mojibi-Yazdi

Did you know that participating in extracurricular activities could improve your chances of getting better placement in universities, internships, jobs and other programs? Bakersfield College offers many opportunities for students who want to be involved in such activities.

being a member of a club, you are not obligated to attend meetings, unless you become a club officer, and the amount of time and effort you put into the club depends on the level of participation you desire.

Each club has at least one faculty member as the adviser, and the officers are student members. Representatives from all clubs meet on a bi-weekly basis at Inter-Club Council meetings.

At this time, the active clubs on campus are: African-American Student Union, Agriculture Club, Business Club, Deaf Club, Engineers Club, Intercultural Student Association,

Interservice Christian Fellowship, Latter-day Saints Student Association, Lions Club, Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan (M.E.Ch.A.), Native American Cultural Awareness Club, Phi Theta Kappa and the Pre-Med Club.

Currently, all clubs are accepting new members. For information on how to join or even start a club, please stop by the Student Activities office in Campus Center 4.

benefits to students, both educationally and socially. ASBC has three main branches: the Executive Board, the Student Senate and the Student Court.

Executive Board (executive branch): Consisting of a president, four vice presidents, a chief justice, and a trustee liaison, the Executive Board is the core of student activities on campus. It manages and coordinates all affairs in regards to student life. Currently, these positions are the only paid positions in ASBC.

Student Senate (legislative branch): There are about 20 senate positions, many of which are still

vacant. Senators are expected to attend a meeting every week to initiate 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.

Student Court (judicial branch): The court consists of the chief justice and up to eight associate justices, and controls the judicial powers of the student government.

There still are many open positions in ASBC. In addition to the benefits associated with each position, leadership skills, public speaking and parliamentary procedures are practiced on many occasions.

This is a chance for all students to make their stay at Bakersfield College a more rewarding experience. There is no limit to what you can do. From planning to placing recycling bins on campus to getting students' voices heard in regards to the budget cuts, you can contribute to the betterment of your campus and your career.

Come and join us for many exciting and fun projects. We look forward to serving you.

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

urge to find out more about it. It was in the pursuit of that mission that the crew of the space shuttle Columbia died during re-entry. I was heartbroken when I heard the news. I couldn't believe it, and I didn't want to believe it.

Some have criticized the media for calling the astronauts heroes. But in a time when the sound of war drums are all around us and nations are threatening to blast each other off the face of the Earth, the crew of Columbia was up there conducting scientific experiments, working toward the betterment of the human race. They died in the name of science, which is indeed a high and noble

cause worthy of the label "heroic." The space shuttle program must go on. We owe it to the memory of the astronauts and to all the children out there who dream of touching the stars to continue nurturing our quest for knowledge.

We must not let our spirit of discovery die with Columbia.

Space exploration must continue despite tragic loss of shuttle Columbia



FIRST PERSON

Jarrod M. Graham
EDITOR IN CHIEF

For as long as I can remember, I've

been fascinated by the stars. Not the kind you find in Hollywood, but those little twinkling points of light way up in the night sky.

When I was a kid, I wanted to be an astronaut. I wanted to hop on a rocket and go explore those little points of light. I wanted to visit the

other planets in the solar system. I read books about red giants, white dwarves and black holes, and the origins of our universe. I was, and still am, an avid watcher of "Star Trek."

I've always been drawn to the mystery of space. When you think about its vastness, you can't resist the

THE RENEGADE RIP

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'GADE FEEDBACK Compiled by Shawn Holloway and Roy Lee Maxwell / The Rip

Who is the most influential African-American? Why?

Laraine Hollinger, human services: "Oprah Winfrey, she really cares for people."

Derrick Stevenson, child development: "Malcolm X. I believe he was the most concerned and most serious about issues concerning the African-American community."

Breanna Dixon, nursing: "Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. He made numerous advances for all races. (He) made it easier for all people to succeed..."

Jose Hernandez, art: "Sidney Poitier. If it wasn't for his... contributions by way of his extraordinary acting skills, many racial stereotypes... would still exist."

Karen Howeth, human services: "Colin Powell, due to the impact that he has on society's view of the upcoming war."

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Contact editor Jarrod Graham at 395-4324, e-mail bias at rip_editor@hotmail.com or stop by The Rip Office in Campus Center 1.

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Tips for those who blew Valentine's Day

For those pagans who celebrated Valentine's Day last Friday, you may have either another year to bask in the warm glow of your love for another, or re-enact repeatedly in your head all of the things you did wrong.

While Feb. 14 is considered to be the most romantic day of the year, it also is a ruthless consumer ritual composed of rules which no sane person (mostly myself and the majority of the male population) can understand (except the majority of the female population) simply because they make no sense.

So for those who screwed up their Valentine's Day, the following are some guidelines to ensure that next year either your pillow-talk partner will slip into something "more comfortable" and bark like a dog, or you will come to the realization that it's better to swear off all human contact and stuffed teddy bears forever.

Rule No. 1: The gift tells all
This stupid, shallow rule is true for women than men, because more females get distracted by very expensive, shiny objects. Personally, I enjoy the classic stuffed kitties, chocolate or red roses combination, but some girls consider these "trinkets" to be the side dish to the main course: jewelry. If you show up with a stuffed lion that dances to the tune of "Wild Thing," she will promptly tell you where to stick it.

Females are strange creature I know because not only am I one (sort of), I also dislike most of them as well.

To her, the value of the gift could also equal the value of your love. Get something thoughtful and you'll be Prince Charming for the night. Accidentally go astray and you'll be in the dog house, with no one but yourself to lick.

Rule No. 2: Think nookie
If the first rule is for the girls, then this one is for the boys (and if this sounds sexist, it probably is, but it's also true, so get over it). It may seem crude and disgusting to play nice so you'll get some action after dinner, but that's how some minds work.

If a roll in the hay is worth wearing a plastic smile the entire night, then go for it.

Just remember, girls are the masters of playing mind games, and they'll probably know exactly what you're doing and use it to their advantage.

Rule No. 3: Setting the mood
In the movies, it's usually Barry White or Marvin Gaye playing in the background, but I have found that the Doors' "Not to Touch the Earth" is enough to make you strip down to the nitty-gritty.

Candles, soft lights and champagne over an expensive dinner may turn some people on, but I prefer a night at home with a good, gory horror flick. Atmosphere is really a personal preference, so be careful unless you want it to look like the setting for a really bad porno.

Rule No. 4: Don't procrastinate
This is really hypocritical of me since I do everything last minute, but try anyway. It's harder to forget Valentine's Day than it is an anniversary or birthday (after 19 years my mother still can't remember the exact day she gave birth to me) because it's announced nationally.

Nevertheless, every year I see guys lined up in front of street corner vendors selling the baskets of candies and toy gorillas wearing T-shirts saying "I'm Ape for You." And if you read the first rule, you don't want to be one of those guys.

Rule No. 5: Remember, it's a stupid holiday anyway
Let's face it, this love fest blows whether you're alone and bitter, or married (and in most cases way more bitter).

But hey, it's the only night where mixing the mattress lambada and cheap chocolate while stuffed animals watch is not frowned upon.



FIRST PERSON
Amber Garcia
SPECIAL TO THE RIP

Hopefully, in your quest of getting laid, you won't make the same stupid mistake David Harris made. Harris' wife, Clara, caught him cheating on her in the same Houston hotel where they were married in 1992 on Valentine's Day.

So not only does Harris gain stupid points for going to the same damn hotel he was married in to cheat on his wife, he also scores major death points for being run over by her in her Mercedes-Benz.

Rule No. 4: Don't procrastinate
This is really hypocritical of me since I do everything last minute, but try anyway. It's harder to forget Valentine's Day than it is an anniversary or birthday (after 19 years my mother still can't remember the exact day she gave birth to me) because it's announced nationally.

Nevertheless, every year I see guys lined up in front of street corner vendors selling the baskets of candies and toy gorillas wearing T-shirts saying "I'm Ape for You." And if you read the first rule, you don't want to be one of those guys.

Rule No. 5: Remember, it's a stupid holiday anyway
Let's face it, this love fest blows whether you're alone and bitter, or married (and in most cases way more bitter).

But hey, it's the only night where mixing the mattress lambada and cheap chocolate while stuffed animals watch is not frowned upon.

CAMPUS

'GADE NEWSLINE

BC hosts youth leadership conference Feb. 28

More than 150 Kern County high school students will take part in the 16th Annual Youth Leadership Conference at Bakersfield College Feb. 28.

The conference offers a variety of workshops where students learn about leadership, personal finance, goal setting and strategic planning.

The conference begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends at noon.

For more information about the conference or Black History Month, contact the Martin Luther King Jr. Center at 395-4570.

Multicultural performance set for today

Music of African and African-American traditions will be performed today at St. Peter's Restoration Community Christian Church on 510 E. Brundage Lane from 3 to 9 p.m. as part of the Multicultural Choral Music Festival.

Admission is free.

Concert will feature three jazz combos

Three jazz combos consisting of BC students, faculty and alumni will perform at the March 6 Small Groups Concert.

The BC Faculty Jazz Combo, featuring John Gerhold, Jim Scully, James Dethlefsen, Dan Murillo, John Martin and Cam Weckerley, will perform many selections including "Over the Rainbow," "Summertime" and "The Best is Yet to Come."

The student groups will be the Alva/Wood Project, featuring Apicio Alva on trumpet and Jeff Wood on tenor sax and the Martini Frim-Frammers featuring Brandon Russie and Jesse Brunner on reeds and John Martin on trumpet.

The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. in BC's Fine Arts 30. Tickets are \$5 general admission, \$3 for students. For more information, call the Ticket Office at 395-4326.

Art gallery centers on California flowers

The flora of California will be displayed through the imagery and interpretation of artist Gary Bukovnik as the Wylie and May Louise Jones Gallery presents "Gary Bukovnik California-life."

The exhibit opened with a reception Feb. 13 and runs through April 18. Admission is free.

Gallery hours are Monday through Thursday from noon to 8 p.m. and Saturday from noon to 4 p.m.

Compiled by Campus Editor Coumba Tamboura

CRIME BEAT

Boys caught with stolen BC cart

Three male juveniles were caught riding in a stolen Bakersfield College golf cart Jan. 23 on North Chester Avenue, according to Det. Mary DeGeare of the Bakersfield Police Department.

The boys, ages 12, 15 and 16, were caught by a Kern County Sheriff's deputy with the stolen golf cart, which had spray paint over the BC logo.

College authorities were unaware that the cart, which is worth \$7,000 was stolen. The juveniles were charged with possession of stolen property and auto theft.

Compiled by Features Editor Edeth Obas



Tina Ojukuwulu, left, shows African art for sale to Tammy Williams Tuesday during Black History Month. LAUREL BARLOW / THE RIP

BLACK HISTORY: Events include poetry reading, art exhibit

Continued from Page 1
Dec Slade, president of the African-American Networking of Kern County, will present the history of African-Americans in Kern County Monday in Student Services 151, from noon to 1 p.m.
On Feb. 28, the 16th annual Youth Leadership Conference will be held at BC, with more than 130 high school students expected to attend.
James Tyson of Ebony Counseling Center will bring the "Keeping It Real" drama performance to the conference.
High schools in Bakersfield and outlying areas are invited to attend.
Students will enjoy various workshops that help them understand the need for education, male/female relationships and perseverance.
The "Keeping It Real" performance will be held from 8:30 a.m. to noon. These events, as well as a few others will expose students to African American culture as well as entertain.
June Charles, a program assistant in the MLK Jr. Center said, "The goal, first of all, is to share the heritage and culture of African-Americans and hopefully to encourage the students here on campus to even take a class on black history."

CLASSIFIED: Staff upset at security proposal

Continued from Page 1
violation. He said the union is planning to file an unfair labor practice charge, against the college.
Skibinski said that during a Feb. 8 union meeting, members passed a vote of no confidence in BC President Dr. Sandra Serrano and district Chancellor Dr. Walter Packard.
Negotiations are expected to continue Wednesday.
"It's tough, especially when you have put in 110 percent and worked diligently to protect the students, staff and faculty," said Augie Gutierrez, a 19-year veteran of the BC security force.

IRAQ: BC students divided

Continued from Page 1
Rodriguez said.
"I'd fight for my country with God right by my side."
Gardner, however, believes differently.
"Women won't be drafted," she said. "They are just now starting to let women on the front line. Why would a woman be drafted if she wasn't going to the front line?"
Purcell also does not believe that women would be drafted, but for a different reason.
"Any president who allows mothers to die on the field of battle knows he will never be re-elected," he said. "Therefore, (Bush) will never let women be drafted."

SPORTS

Women's basketball shooting for playoffs

The men's team is all but out of the playoffs, but the women still have hope for a spot in the postseason.

By DOMINIC TROFFER
Rip staff writer

With the basketball season winding down, the men's and women's teams have had an equally tough time. Both have surprisingly similar records.

The men were 11-18 while the

"We're all good friends and it's going to be sad when it's over and we have to go our separate ways."

— Taylor Seay, women's sophomore guard

women were 11-17 as of Wednesday afternoon.

The men's team is experiencing a

rebuilding season, with a group of players who have never played college basketball before.

"We had no returners, all freshmen. Given that context we've done pretty well," said coach George Nessman, who is in his first season as the head coach. Nessman came to BC this fall from Porterville College.

The men's team lost 74-60 to a tough College of the Canyons at home on Feb. 15, almost guaranteeing that they won't make the playoffs, according to Nessman.

"We had a slow start to the season because everyone (of us were) freshmen but I feel like we are progressing," said Peter Rajniak, a 21-year-old transfer student from San Diego Mesa College.

Members of the women's team are looking toward the playoffs with high hopes, although it will be difficult after they fell to College of the Canyons, 77-58, on Feb. 15 at the Gil Bishop Sports Center.

"We're all good friends and it's going to be sad when it's over and we have to go our separate ways," said 19-year-old sophomore guard Taylor Seay.

The women are led by coach Paula Dahl, who is in her ninth year as the head coach.

"They're a great group of kids that work extremely hard and they have been a great group to work with," she said.

Some players said they hope to make the postseason playoffs.

"The team has gotten a lot better since November and if we make the playoffs we could be a Cinderella team," said Cory Edgemond, a 19-year-old freshman guard who has been a standout player for the Renegades.

BC's men's and women's basketball teams play their final game Saturday at 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.



Renegade Jami Perry gets ready to shoot a free throw against West Los Angeles College during a Feb. 5 game in the Gil Bishop Sports Center in which BC won, 74-32. JULIAN JAQUEZ / THE RIP



Jami Perry drives for the next layup against a player from West Los Angeles College. JULIAN JAQUEZ / THE RIP

BC unveils Culver clubhouse

By VICTOR GARCIA
Sports Editor
The Bakersfield College Athletic Department has accomplished a milestone with the completion of the George Culver Baseball Clubhouse.
"It definitely is one of a kind at the community college level," said BC baseball coach Tim Painton.
According to Painton, the idea came about 15 years ago from former baseball coach John Moncier and George Culver, who wanted to upgrade BC's baseball facilities.
The money raised for the clubhouse came from Hot Stove dinners put on throughout the years by George Culver and the Hot Stove Committee.
"It has grown from a baseball dinner into a community event. In the process they have raised \$125,000; put up lights in the ballpark, new dugouts and 10 years ago the money from the Hot Stove dinners was all earmarked toward this clubhouse."
Total construction costs for the clubhouse were \$300,000 in addition to equipment and labor donated according to the BC Public Information office.
The clubhouse opened on Gerry Collis Field on Jan. 25 after 10 years of fund-raising and four years of construction.
George Culver was a former BC baseball player and major leaguer. Culver played for various teams and on July 29, 1968 he pitched a no-hitter against the Philadelphia Phillies while playing for the Cincinnati Reds according to www.baseball-almanac.com.
Before the clubhouse, players had to dress in the dugout or in the football locker room.
"During the fall we would have 60 or so players dressing in the dugout or wherever they could find some space," Painton said.
The clubhouse, which is approximately 2,400 square feet, consists of a locker room, coaches' locker room, players showers, restrooms, an office and a laundry room that is not yet complete.
"It is a great addition to our baseball facility," said BC Athletics Director Jan Stuebbe.
He said it was the only clubhouse of its kind that he knew of in the community colleges in California.



The inside of BC's new George Culver Clubhouse, which opened Jan. 25 at Gerry Collis Field. CHRIS KEELER / THE RIP

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Basketball's Ambassadors

Photos and Story by Roger Hornback / The Rip



Darlene Ocampo waits to see what the Globetrotters have in store for her after they pulled her from the crowd.

It was a night of fun for all ages when the Harlem Globetrotters played the New York Nationals at Centennial Garden recently.

Comedy took center court as the Globetrotters took numerous breaks from the game to have fun with the crowd. Members of the audience were pulled into the show.

One young boy made a basket as the team's mascot cheered on. One woman, Darlene Ocampo, was chosen to dance with a team member while another member snatched her purse so the team could play keep-away.

During breaks, the African Acrobats entertained the crowd by making human pyramids, doing back flips while jumping rope and performing numerous stunts.

As usual the Globetrotters won the game and the hearts of the crowd.



Kyle Morgan, 9, shoots a basket after being picked from the audience by the Globetrotter mascot Globie.



Above left: Garnett Thompson leaps over a New York Nationals defender to make a basket. Above right: Brandon Dean drives toward hoop during a game at Centennial Garden.



The African Acrobats from Kenya make a human pyramid during the show.

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A tribute to heritage

Poetry and jazz presentations among highlights of Black History Month.

Features, Page 3



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Features, Page 4



Down with Davis

Governor's opponents look to toss him out of office.

Opinion, Page 2

THE RENEGADE RIP

www.therip.com

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Bakersfield College

February 28, 2003

UFW pioneer to kick off Women's History

■ A co-founder of the farmworkers' union will offer a presentation on changes in women's societal roles.

By **DANIELLA WILLIAMS**
Rip staff writer

Dolores Huerta, "Mother of the UFW," will be on campus Tuesday

to speak on women and societal change to kick off Women's History Month.

The 72-year-old Huerta is a landmark activist and co-founder of the United Farm Workers of America, which lobbied successfully for the Agricultural Labor Relations Act, the first law granting farmworkers the right to organize and bargain for better conditions.

Chicano studies professor Rosa Garza describes Huerta as an "icon."

"She's an icon of the Chicano movement. She worked right along with Cesar Chavez (but she) doesn't get a lot of credit," she said.

Huerta is not only a pioneer in the UFW, but in the women's movement as well. For Garza, Huerta's influence can be found in both.

"Huerta is not only for Chicanos,

but women in general. ... I'm amazed at what she's done. It hasn't always been this easy (for women). The younger generation should appreciate her activism."

Huerta received many awards for her activism, like the 2002 UCLA Cesar E. Chavez Spirit Award. She has also received the Puffin Foundation and the Nation Institute Prize for Creative Citizenship, which goes

annually to "an American who has challenged the status quo through courageous and imaginative work."

She has organized field strikes, the five-year-long Delano grape strike and, though she nearly died from an aneurysm in 2000, she marched from Bakersfield to Sacramento in support of legislation for farmworkers this past summer. Huerta also was inducted into the National Women's

Hall of Fame in 1993.

"We should consider ourselves lucky to have her speaking to us. (She has) contributed a lot to the valley ... and the nation," said retired BC history professor Gaylen Lewis, who is helping promote Women's History Month.

Huerta will speak on "Women Creating Change in Today's World." See HUERTA, Page 5

War divides community

By **DANIELLA WILLIAMS**
Rip staff writer

While a number of residents are mobilizing in support of peace, one Bakersfield College student is at the other end of the spectrum.

Michael Alesso II, a 20-year-old computer science major, supports President Bush's decision to go to war with Iraq.

"I understand why we didn't (take down Saddam) in 1991, but it's been 12 years of cat and mouse," he said. "What the Bush administration is doing is ... holding him to the task, to what he signed when he surrendered."

Alesso joined a group of people supporting military action in Iraq on a recent Friday evening at the intersection of California Avenue and Stockdale Highway. It was the first time a pro-war group picketed across the street from a pro-peace group, which had been picketing at the intersection since September. On the northwest corner of the intersection, anti-war protesters gathered. Across the street, Alesso's group held signs as well.

Robert Prohaska, a 21-year-old Marine who was at the protest, feels that the United States has been patient with Saddam long enough. He's ready to do something about the situation.

"He's had 12 years to comply (with U.N. resolutions). As a Christian, I believe in peace. But as a Marine, I'm ready to go," he said.

Alesso is working to get his opinion noticed.

"Me and six other friends want to open a chapter of the national club, Young Americans for Freedom." Young Americans for Freedom, of which Alesso is the local chairman, is a conservative organization for young people, according to its Web site, www.yaf.com. The club began forming two months ago and will base itself at BC. Though it is nonparti-

People on both sides argue their views on the government's push to take down Saddam Hussein

san, its members all support the Bush administration's decision to push for war with Iraq.

In an interview with a few members of the local YAF, 20-year-old Kephren Newton, an engineering major and the club's secretary, said the Bush administration is confronting an issue that has been on hold since the Gulf War.

"This is building up from unfinished business," said Matthew Heflin, 20, the organization's treasurer.

Those against the war said they, too, have an interest, only theirs is an interest for peace. An older crowd, they offered a perspective differing from that of the younger set on the other side of the street.

Doug McAfee, who was present at the anti-war protest, has a daughter who attends BC. According to McAfee, she was ridiculed for being one of three students who oppose a war in her government class. For him, the war is an unjust one.

"It's about money really ... and corporate greed. It's not about stopping violence. Violence begets violence," he said.

At the same protest, Virginia Martinez pulled over and picked up a sign.

"My brother died in Vietnam. I don't want other people to have to experience that," she said.

Besides those at the intersection, other peace supporters gathered at the recent Kern County for Peace rally at Jastro Park. Jim Bronke, 52, who came down from Lebec for the rally, feels that the information provided by some Iraqi defectors is too dated upon which to base a war. Bronke is not anti-war, but is against this war, believing that the issue has been inflated.

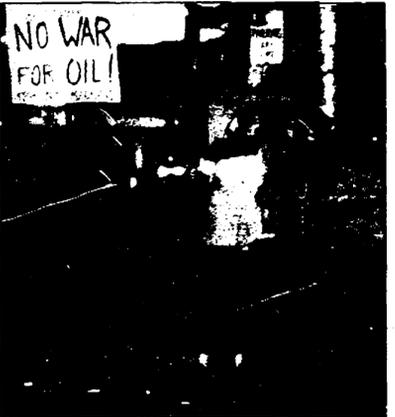
"Internationally, (Saddam) is not that evil. A defector from 1994 is not enough ... he hasn't been back to Iraq in nine years ... it's all speculative," he said.

Despite how hot the issue is for many involved, See IRAQ, Page 5



PHOTOS BY JENNIFER RUIZ / THE RIP

Bakersfield High student Sara Tobin, 16, shows her support for a war with Iraq.



Doug McAfee, left, whose daughter goes to BC, disagrees with going to war.

Faculty discusses possible outcome of military strike

By **COUMBA TAMBOURA**
Campus Editor

The American military will succeed in a war against Iraq whether or not the United States is supported internationally, said Bruce Meier, history and business teacher at Bakersfield College.

Meier was one of several BC faculty members interviewed about the probability and consequences of a war with Iraq.

"I believe that it is highly probable that we will enter the war," said Meier. "And I believe when we enter the war, whether it is with a broad-based coalition or not, militarily we will be successful."

But Meier noted that the United States may face new problems if it goes to war

without international support.

"Without a broad-based coalition, there are several risks that we will encounter and pragmatically, we could be worse off as a result of our military victory," he said.

Those risks involve a rise of the anti-American sentiment in some countries and the reinforcement of terrorist groups.

"There is a risk that anti-American extremists may overthrow the more moderate governments such as exists in Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and Turkey," said Meier. "And these governments, in order to survive the anti-American feelings of their citizens, will have to become more anti-American themselves."

Meier said if the United States is to go to war, it must be a "wise war," or a war that benefits Americans internationally. He noted that North Korea is a potentially higher risk.

Tom Moran, a faculty member of the American Sign Language Program, also mentioned the danger that North Korea represents.

"North Korea certainly constitutes more of a threat, and China in that regard. They do have nuclear weapons as I understand it and so they constitute a threat."

He expressed his apprehension about India and Pakistan, two other countries who also possess nuclear weapons.

Moran said he does not understand why

a war against Iraq is necessary.

"The purpose of a war is to defend one's land and he (Saddam Hussein) is not attacking us. I have yet to see any direct ties between Iraq and organized terrorism."

African-American history instructor Ishmael Kimbrough also is skeptical of the reasons for war, even though he said evidence supporting the United States might be found at a later time.

"The president and the administration have not made it clear that this war is necessary at this time," he said.

He admits the potential danger Saddam Hussein represents, but suggests that other issues need more focus.

See IRAQ, Page 5

CSUB program offers free assistance with taxes

By **TIFFANY UPTON**
Rip staff writer

Theresa Smith, a Bakersfield College graduate, waited Saturday afternoon on the second-floor lobby of the business administration offices to get her taxes done for free at California State University, Bakersfield.

She is having her taxes prepared by accounting students in the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance, or VITA, program at CSUB.

The university has provided the free service since 1996, says James Patten, an associate professor of accounting at CSUB. The program prepares about 450 to 500 returns a year.

Students looking for free tax assistance

"We do it just for the sheer delight of helping people."

— **Ryan Nielson,**
CSUB accounting student

often take advantage of the service.

"VITA has been around for 30 years and it's all over the country," Patten said. "In fact, in Kern County, we have probably 10 or 15 VITA sites, but were one of only two that have electronic filing."

Natalie Petersen and Ryan Nielson are accounting students at CSUB who work in the VITA program. And though Petersen said they don't receive class credit for it, they say the work is rewarding.

"We do it just for the sheer delight of helping people," Nielson said.

Both work during the week entering data for tax returns that are left from the weekend.

"It's a tremendous learning experience," Nielson said.

Patten recommends making an appointment by calling 664-2339.

A voice recording will tell the exact location of VITA and callers are prompted to leave a message.

The Mexican-American Opportunity Foundation has a site that is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for those who need Spanish-speaking assistance.

An appointment is recommended.



New baabies on campus

These cute lambs were the first of three sets of twins born this month in the Bakersfield College Ag Unit.

LAUREL BARLOW / THE RIP

OPINION

It's time for United Nations to take down Saddam



PRO
Jarrod M. Graham
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The United Nations must act against Iraq before Saddam Hussein launches an attack using weapons of mass destruction.

On Monday, countries on both sides of the issue offered proposals to the U.N. Security Council. On the side of war, the United States, Britain and Spain called for military action against Saddam's government, while France, Germany and Russia proposed a plan to continue inspec-

tions, along with a step-by-step process to disarm Iraq, an Associated Press report said. French President Jacques Chirac calls this "the logic of peace," the AP said, but where is the logic in allowing a tyrant like Saddam to go unchecked? While the United Nations debates what to do about Iraq, Saddam's forces are in the process

of hiding the weapons they do possess, possibly even massing them to launch an attack against the West. We should know better than to trust Saddam. During previous rounds of inspections, he has led weapons inspectors on wild goose chases before eventually barring them from his country. Why was he so reluctant to give them free rein in

the past if he had nothing to hide? It's clear that he's been up to no good, and considering what a nice guy he is, what with rigging the elections so he's guaranteed to win and committing acts of genocide against his own people, it's doubtful he has seen the light and decided to disarm. President Bush says the United Nations must accept the resolution

'Logic of peace' calls for more U.N. inspections



CON
Victor Gardia
SPORTS EDITOR

Declaring war on Iraq is wrong. What is the purpose of going to war with Iraq? It has "weapons of mass destruction," according to President Bush. Bush chooses not to mention one thing, though. Iraq is not the only country that poses a threat to the United States with weapons of mass destruction. There are numerous countries that pose a bigger threat to the United States than Iraq. North Korea, to name one of them. It should be the United Nations as a whole that decides to go to war with Iraq, not just the United States and Britain.

France, Germany and Russia submitted a proposal to the United Nations on Monday, calling for a step-by-step disarmament of Iraq, according to The Associated Press. French President Jacques Chirac describes this as "the logic of peace." This would be a great way to make sure Saddam Hussein and Iraq do not threaten U.S. interests and allies. But the Bush administration does not see it that way. According to Bush, Iraq should have disarmed last fall. The one thing that Iraq does have that other potential threats don't is oil. Iraq is the second largest supplier of crude oil in the world, according to The Washington Post. While administration officials say they have not begun to focus on the issues involving oil and Iraq, American oil companies already have begun maneuvering for a stake in Iraq's oil reserve. Since the Persian Gulf War in

1991, companies from more than a dozen nations, including France, Russia, China, India, Italy, Vietnam and Algeria, have either reached or sought to reach agreements to develop Iraqi oil fields. Most of the deals are on hold until the lifting of U.N. sanctions, The Post reported. France, Russia and China already have a stake in Iraq which war would disturb. They want to give Iraq time to comply with the United Nations so they can move forward with their business. Access to Iraqi oil and profits will depend on the nature and intentions of a new government. The United States should get out of the oil business and let the United Nations do its job in disarming Iraq.



MAR JO JONES / THE RIP

Californians can take control through recall of Gov. Davis



IT AINT OVER 'TIL THE FAT LADY SINGS.

MAR JO JONES / THE RIP

by JENNIFER MILLS
Rip staff writer

Last November Gov. Gray Davis ran for re-election, and Californians voted him in as "the lesser of two evils." But American citizens have the right to choose who runs their state, and many are fighting for a recall to remove him from office. Because of the terrible condition California has been in under his watch, Californians should take a stand against the governor and help in the recall campaign. The notice for recall was filed on Feb. 5, and supporters are waiting for it to be approved by the secretary of state. Once it is, proponents of the recall have just over four months to collect 897,156 valid signatures, which is 12 percent of those who voted in this past general election. Though it is true that Bill Simon seemed as slimy as Davis, how can people ignore the fact that Davis overspent taxpayers' money, putting California in a \$34.6 billion deficit? Of course Davis' spending spree was not the only cause of the deficit. The power crisis also played a part in the loss. According to a recall Web site, www.recallgraydavis.com, one of the top five reasons to recall Davis is that Californians are paying the highest utility bills in the nation because of his gross mismanagement of the state's power crisis.

So now that California is millions of dollars in debt, what would be the point of spending even more money to get Davis out of office? After all, a special election may cost taxpayers an additional \$20 million to \$40 million. Californians cannot change the past, but they can certainly take control of the future, because it doesn't look much brighter than the past. The first time that Davis was elected he claimed that his top priorities were education, education and education, but look what has happened to education this year. Davis lied about his plans to raise taxes to get re-elected, and made massive cuts in education, particularly community colleges like Bakersfield College. This election, Davis proclaimed that his top priorities are business, business and business. But Davis is currently coming up with new ways to tax families and small businesses. According to recallgraydavis.com, he has proposed implementing a tax on Internet commerce for any company with a retail outlet in California. Davis is only trying to restore the debt he created, but he is driving businesses out of California. We voters have a chance to stop him. In a rebuttal to the recall, Davis replied by stating, "In these difficult and dangerous times, let's work together, not be diverted by partisan mischief."

In an article by The Associated Press, Roger Salazar, a consultant to Davis, has ignored all of the complaints about Davis. "What you have here are a bunch of sore losers who can't stand the fact they got beat fair and square in the last election," he said. What Salazar said is simply untrue, because this recall isn't about being king of the mountain (or in California's case, being king of the dirt hill). The GOP is playing a huge part in the recall, but only a part. The Libertarian and American Independent parties support the recall, as well as some Democratic officials. Davis is playing the game he preaches against. In his rebuttal, he bashes the Republican leader of the recall. According to The Associated Press, there have been recall efforts against every California governor in the past 30 years. None of them, however, have collected the needed signatures. But because of Davis' unpopularity with Democrats and Republicans alike, this effort is more likely to succeed. "It's not a question of whether we should recall Gray Davis, it's an issue of how long we can afford to wait — all the while watching California slide further into the abyss," states recallgraydavis.com. It is time to put effort into restoring California. The first step is taking Gray Davis out of office. Go to the recall Web site to find out how you can help.

FEATURES

Poetry, artwork celebrate heritage

Stirring rendition of famous "I Have a Dream" speech moves audience during recital.

By JEFF EAGAN
Rip staff writer

In celebration of Black History Month, Bakersfield College's Martin Luther King Jr. Center welcomed the public to attend a recital of African-American poetry. It was an intimate night as a small crowd gathered at Barnes & Noble Booksellers to view artwork and recite their favorites.

Among the best was a stirring rendition of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s historic "I Have a Dream" speech by featured artist Samuel Pierra. Pierra's cheeks quivered with conviction in a performance that moved the audience.

Zachinni Hubbard, 26, one of the attendees, started the evening with a selection from Maya Angelou, titled "Phenomenal Woman." One of Angelou's more famous pieces, it reveals how the author feels about herself, her body and her innermost being.

June Charles, the program assistant at BC's Martin Luther King Jr. Center, said, "This gives people a chance to express what they're feeling about issues in the world through the poetry they write." Although reluctant at first, Charles recited Angelou's "Thank You Lord."

Melissa Turner, the only one to recite original pieces, gave a dramatic performance every time she stepped up to the mic. Her poem "The Source" alluded to the genesis of life. In her words, "Creator of the universe / the reason of birth / mother sister daughter, wife brings life."

Turner said the event was important. "It's for a universal crowd to gather to remember the struggles people have faced," she said.

Hubbard read another Angelou selection, the inspirational poem "Still I Rise," which drew applause from all around. The poem describes the perseverance of African-Americans despite the centuries of hardships they have had to endure.

"I teach my children the importance of their heritage," Hubbard said about the significance of that poem.

Charles recited "Just Like Job," also by Angelou, a poem about the lifetime hardships of one man who, through his faith, is finally redeemed. Charles likened the story of Job to the adversity faced by blacks throughout American history, and "their only way to survive was to depend on the Lord."

Before Pierra recited King's speech, Charles reminded the audience that "we're doing this because of the dream, the dream that we all have." She echoed the words of King and his dream that "each and everyone of us will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character."



JENNIFER RUIZ / THE RIP

Samuel Pierra gives a dynamic rendition of Martin Luther King Jr.'s famous "I Have a Dream" speech.

A Night of Jazz



Above: Tony O'Brian entertains the crowd in the Fireside Room during recent jazz event.



Right: Inesta Billingsley sings a prelude before the jazz fest, held as part of Black History Month.



Far right: Brittany Tanner gives a heartfelt performance.

Photos by Laurel Barlow / The Rip

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'GADE FEEDBACK
 Compiled by Chris Keeler / The Rip

What do you think about Michael Jackson?

Andres Elizondo, psychology: "Something's wrong with him. He's ill."

Denise McCants, human services: "Michael Jackson is awesome. A little twisted, but awesome."

Annette Phillips, psychology: "I think people should leave him alone. Everyone is entitled to a private life."

Greg Paris, undeclared: "He's cool, he's just real weird, he's got a lot of problems."

Ron Grisham, undeclared: "He needs Jesus."

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'Old School' puts new spin on college party movies

By DOMINIC TROFFER
Rip staff writer

Watching "Old School" fills you with that "I'm gonna go out and do that" feeling that you get after watching a movie like "Rocky" or "Good Will Hunting." You know what I'm talking about. You leave the theater and, if only for a second, you are determined to go out there and become something greater than you ever thought you could be. On the other hand, "Old School" inspires you to become a party animal.

The movie definitely has its faults. It has the same plot as a score of other fraternity movies and it beats to death the overworked cliches that are involved with college life. The movie has a refreshing twist the main characters are not college students, but a bunch of 30-somethings reliving the dream.

From start to finish, Frank the Tank (Will Ferrell) steals the spotlight from the movie's main character, Mitch (Luke Wilson), and Mitch's attempt to find love. His performance will be immortalized among the ranks of other infamously hilarious party animals: Bluto from "Animal House" and Stiffler from

"American Pie." Frank is a hilarious character that transforms from a newlywed who is not quite sure of his new life, to a disc jockey who deals with the days only to get to the nights. The parties are when Frank really shines, from officiating wrestling matches to streaking.

The supporting cast consists of Beanie (Vince Vaughn), an audio-video chain store owner who manipulates the innocent Mitch into starting a fraternity at his new house. Mitch had to get the house after he caught his wife cheating with several people at the same time. Beanie always has a lot of big talk to support his grand plans. To complement these characters is a host of fraternity members including a 90-year-old man, a middle-age Asian businessman and several stereotypical college kids.

The plot follows a fairly predictable path which is always a disappointment in these types of movies. Despite the lack of a plot twist, overall it is a strong movie that highlights the comic strengths of its leading characters.

If you are looking for a funny movie that requires about as much thought as a night of drinking, then "Old School" is something you should check out. You might be inspired to go out there and be lesser than you can be.



Will Ferrell reverts to the raucous behavior of his untamed altergo "Frank the Tank" in "Old School."

PHOTO COURTESY OF DREAMWORKS PICTURES

It Pays to Read The Rip

Check at winning a prize. The Rip magazine has a contest. You can win a prize. You have to go to pick up a copy. The contest is based on a story in the Rip.

Only one answer per person per edition will be accepted. Each correct answer will give you a chance to win a drawing on line for the donated prize of \$100 in cash. We also will publish his picture in the May 9 edition.

The deadline to submit this week's entry is Thursday, March 6, at 3 p.m. If you have questions about the contest, call Editor in Chief Jarrod Graham at 395-4324 or e-mail him at jripmail@bc.cc.ca.us.

It Pays to Read The Rip

NAME: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____ E-MAIL: _____

QUESTION NO. 1: How much money for instructional equipment do officials in the Athletics Department expect to lose because of budget cuts in the 2003-04 school year?

ANSWER: _____

The deadline to submit this week's entry is Thursday, March 6, at 3 p.m. If you have questions about the contest, call Editor in Chief Jarrod Graham at 395-4324 or e-mail him at jripmail@bc.cc.ca.us.

'GADE NEWSLINE

Renegade Room Restaurant opens for dinner

The Renegade Room Restaurant at Bakersfield College offers fine dining every Tuesday and Thursday evening in March. Students of the BC's Culinary Arts program prepare and serve the meals.

The Renegade Room Restaurant at Bakersfield College is located in the Family and Consumer Education (FACE) Building.

Free parking is available at the northeast corner of the campus near Mt. Vernon Avenue and Panorama Drive.

The restaurant is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Dinners are \$8.85 per person, including tax.

For reservations or more information, call 395-4441.

Culinary competition scheduled March 8

Indulge your sweet tooth and cheer as BC culinary arts students battle to win the Classical Patisserie Competition March 8.

Each team of students will develop pastries from France, Germany, Austria and Italy.

The competition will take place at the Bakersfield College Renegade Room Restaurant from noon to 2 p.m.

Free samples and a small buffet will be available after the final judging is completed.

Parking is available at the northeast corner of the campus near Mt. Vernon Avenue and Panorama Drive.

For more information, call 395-4441.

Fresh farm eggs for sale on Wednesdays

Fresh farm eggs are available for sale on Wednesdays at the Garden Shed for \$2 per dozen.

Also each week, the Agriculture Department will be giving away one dozen eggs to someone on campus.

If you would like your name entered in the drawing for free eggs, please send a BC business card to: Ag Dept, C/O BC Eggs.

White, brown and green eggs are available, with the green eggs produced by Araucana chickens. The eggs are processed as they would be commercially and all meet AA grade standards. Sizes vary from large to small.

—Compiled by Campus Editor Coumba Tamboura



Jennifer Garner and Ben Affleck star in "Daredevil."

PHOTO COURTESY OF TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX

'Daredevil' remains loyal to comic

By LORENZO MIRANDA
Special to The Rip

Ben Affleck has it all. He's not only dating a beautiful woman with fame and fortune but he's also part of a partnership with his close friend and the movie industry.

And then in his spare time he leads the secret life of a blind superhero vigilante who fights crime in the area known as Hell's Kitchen in New York City.

Did I read that part of Affleck's life in the tabloid? That's because it's not describing Affleck's crazy real life but rather Marvel Comic's newest movie adaptation, "Daredevil," one of several comic book heroes to hit the big screen.

Affleck stars as Matt Murdock, a victim of a freak biomedical waste accident during his childhood that takes away his ability to see.

Yet, as this sense is taken away from him the rest of his senses are heightened to the point where his "vision" is restored, allowing him to perform feats of daring.

This is a manufactured superhero movie that has a style similar to the one used in the recent Marvel movie, "Spider-Man."

I heard someone wonder, "Did Daredevil make his own leather costume? Since he's blind, how did he do this?" That got me to wonder, too, taking my mind off of the movie.

Still, Affleck was more than just his skin tight jumpsuit. He fit the Daredevil type and joined an excellent cast that really brought out some of the unique characters from the comic book.

While these performances are loyal to the comic, they are outweighed by the cookie cutter superhero formula.

Other films scheduled to be shown include "Halving the Bones" on March 12 at 7 p.m. in Forum East and "Carmen Miranda: Bananas Is My Business" on March 24 at 1 p.m. in Fine Arts 30. Sociology and anthropology professor Pat Thompson will host both films.

HUERTA: UFW leader will discuss women's roles

Continued from Page 1
A reflection on women and their impact in social change at 6 p.m. Tuesday in the Fireside Room. Huerta's discussion will be the highlight of a series of discussions and films celebrating Women's History Month.

On International Women's Day, March 8, from 10 a.m. to noon, a number of speakers on "Alternative Careers for Women" will address students in Forum East. Psychology professor Karen Eso is in charge of coordinating the event, which will present several nontraditional careers for women. Careers in construction, architecture, firefighting, medicine, automotive and law enforcement are a few that will be discussed.

About 80 at-risk young women will be bused to the event through the help of youth programs Lamont CARES and Sister to Sister.

Other presentations during Women's History Month will include "Woman Outlaws: From Ma Barker to Martha Stewart" on March 10 at 7 p.m. and "Brazen Dossies: A Brief History of Women in Sport" on March 17 at 7 p.m. Both will be held in the Fireside Room.

The film segments that will be shown during Women's History Month tackle the issues of ethnicity and womanhood. Theater professor Kim Chin will show "Slaying the Dragon," a film which deals with both positive and negative images of Asian women. It will be shown March 20 at noon in Forum West.

"The Salt of the Earth" will be shown by Garza on March 6 at 6 p.m. in Forum East. The film was produced in the 1950s, concerning a zinc labor strike in New Mexico.

IRAQ: BC faculty members express concerns about war

Continued from Page 1
"That he (Saddam Hussein) is a bad guy, I agree with that. He eventually can be a danger, but I haven't seen evidence that he is now, and there are other fish to fry."

According to Kimbrough, protecting the United States from terrorism is more important than going to war.

"This seems out of order, and to me it masks a diversion from things that the administration can't necessarily handle plainly here in America or in other countries," he said.

For Helen Acosta, co-director of forensic and a speech instructor at BC, the possibility of the United States becoming a terrorist target is a major concern.

"It seems to me that if we want to avoid more terrorism directed at our country, it is definitely not the way to go," she said.

In addition, she questions the real motivations behind this potential war.

"I conceive that Saddam is evil and a monster, but they're a lot of evil people that run regimes all over the planet and we are not attacking them," she said.

"The only reason we are going there is because they have something we want."

CRIME BEAT

Toilet paper powder sparks emergency response

BC personnel activated the college's emergency response plan when a student worker reported a powdery substance falling from a toilet paper dispenser in the women's restroom in the Bakersfield College administration building Wednesday.

The strange substance turned out to be toilet paper residue, according to an e-mail sent to all employees by Linda Quinones-Vaughan, executive director of the Division of External Relations and Administrative Services.

A hazardous materials team from the city fire department and county environmental health officials investigated the incident.

Another man from Alesso's group was quick to come to the aid of the man who was hit. A report was filed but no arrest was made.

Despite the incident, Alesso has an open attitude regarding the peace movement across the street, seeing a common ground.

"I think (the difference of opinion) is one of the best things about America. No one wants to go to war. It's an absolute last resort."

PEACE: People on both sides of conflict picket corner

Continued from Page 1
The protests finished with only one incident. A man on Alesso's side punched a peace protester in the face after a small confrontation over a sign slogan.

Another man from Alesso's group was quick to come to the aid of the man who was hit. A report

was filed but no arrest was made.

Despite the incident, Alesso has an open attitude regarding the peace movement across the street, seeing a common ground.

"I think (the difference of opinion) is one of the best things about America. No one wants to go to war. It's an absolute last resort."

Bakersfield College Celebrates

WOMEN

March Is Women's History Month

Join us throughout March for seven special films about women. Women in the workforce and female images are two of the major themes of this unique series.

Don't miss Dolores Huerta's, "Mother of the UFW," reflections on women making social change or the chance to learn about women working in non-traditional fields on International Women's Day, March 8

- March 4 **Women Creating Change in Today's World** — Dolores Huerta
6 p.m. Fireside Room
- March 6 **The Salt of the Earth** — Rosa Garza
6 p.m. Forum East
- March 8 **Alternative Careers for Women** — Karen Eso
10 a.m. Forum East area
- March 10 **Woman Outlaws: From Ma Barker to Martha Stewart** — Peggy De Stefano and Christian Zoller
7 p.m. Fireside Room
- March 12 **Halving the Bones** — Pat Thompson
7 p.m. Forum East
- March 17 **Brazen Dossies: A Brief History of Women in Sport** — John Liccardo
7 p.m. Fireside Room
- March 20 **Slaying the Dragon** — Kim Chin
Noon Forum West
- March 20-22 **An Evening of Women's Scenes and Monologues** — Randy Messick
March 27-29 8 p.m. SAM 107
- March 24 **Carmen Miranda: Bananas Is My Business** — Pat Thompson
1 p.m. Fine Arts-30
- March 27 **The Desert is No Lady** — Carol Cunningham
Noon Forum West
- March 28 **Not For Ourselves Alone** — Ann Wiederrecht
11:40 a.m. Humanities-11
- April 3 **Made in Thailand** — Art Saafeld
8 p.m. Math-Science 2

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SPORTS

Athletics not spared from budget cuts

Department loses full-time volleyball coach as campus wrestles with massive reductions.

By **LEANNE CAVE**
Rip staff writer

The proposed \$6 million budget cuts present a big puzzle that Bakersfield College will have to solve.

Each of the 55 programs at the college will have to evaluate and try to come up with a piece of the puzzle that meets the needs of the students as well as keep the institution from suffering as a whole.

And the Athletics Department is no exception.

According to BC Athletics Director Jan Stuebbe at this point of the game, everything is premature, but athletics, as well as other departments, will have to identify what is necessary and what isn't, and that won't be easy.

"I think self-audits are a part of the puzzle," Stuebbe said. "We have to go through the process as well as the other 55 programs and hopefully the end result is that we won't have to suffer."

"Obviously we have to meet our budgets," he added. "It's like a big jigsaw puzzle and every department is a piece of that puzzle that has to work together and fit."

Like other programs on campus, the Athletics Department submitted a self-evaluation last week to college

officials, who will use the information to decide where to make reductions.

The Athletics Department has already begun to work on its piece of the puzzle.

"We've lost a full-time volleyball coach," he said. "That is a \$30,000 cut because of recruiting purposes we had to go ahead and hire an adjunct instructor so that we could recruit for the upcoming volleyball season."

And if that isn't enough, the department has lost \$60,000 for instructional equipment for 2003-04, according to Stuebbe.

At the end of the 2002 tennis season it was projected that BC tennis programs would not exist in 2003.

But the community helped to raise the money for the operational costs for the teams for the next three years.

"Our individual sports programs as well as other programs depend on outside sources," Stuebbe said. "As far as our budgets we are on skeleton funds."

Rob Slaybaugh, men's tennis coach, who helped to organize the dinner/reverse drawing along with Stuebbe, said the main reason that programs exist is to educate students.

"In programs such as band, forensics, drama or athletics, kids learn lessons that they will use their whole life such as interacting and getting along with other people," Slaybaugh said.

"Our individual sports programs as well as other programs depend on outside sources. As far as our budgets we are on skeleton funds."

— **Jan Stuebbe**,
BC athletics director



Patricia Blevins, right, and Tiffany Rivas, both from Bakersfield High School, talk as they go for a swim.

PHOTOS BY JENNIFER RUIZ / THE RIP

Different Strokes

Winter swimmers withstand cold temperatures to stay fit.

By **DANELLA WILLIAMS**
Rip staff writer

The people who use the Bakersfield College pool at night in the middle of winter are not crazy, just determined to get in their swim time.

Despite temperatures anywhere between 40 and 50 degrees, the 5:30 to 7 p.m. session of the Swim and Stay Fit class is hanging in there.

"These are the die-hards," says Charlie Pike, the instructor for the class. He explains that the common thread for most of his swimmers is the scheduling.

"Who else would get in the pool before daylight?" he said. As it turns out, quite a few people make use of the pool despite the chilliness of the night.

Along with the Swim and Stay Fit class, a number of local high schools use the BC pool at night.

Students from the East, Highland and Garces high school swim teams

practice in the pool in the evening as well.

Mirabel Staples, a liberal studies major, commutes in from Delano.

She and a friend are taking the class to lose weight and, like the class title says, stay fit.

"It's worth it healthwise ... and you get toned," she says.

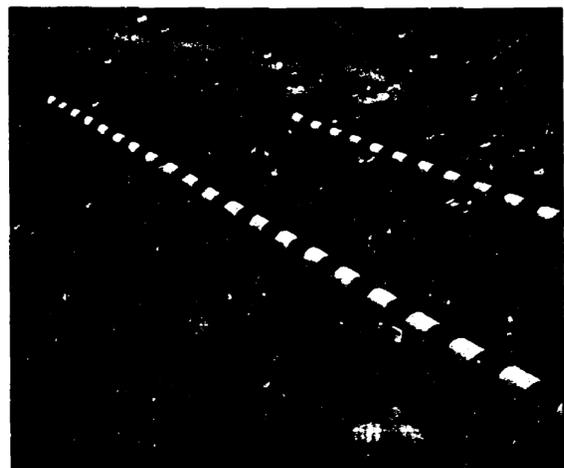
Staples, like most others in the class, is a night swimmer because of timing.

"I love swimming ... the only reason I do it at night is because of scheduling."

Not all of the Swim and Stay Fit swimmers are regular BC students. Many have jobs in the community and come in after work to relax and work out, according to Pike.

"Many in the Swim to Stay Fit class—they are community people who sign up for the class."

Emma Chaput has a pass to use the pool. After work, she comes to the BC pool to train for the half-mile swim segment of the triathlons



Manual Maldonado, left, and Nathan Hevie, both from Bakersfield High School, swim laps at the BC pool.

she participates in.

"It's extremely convenient for me ... the timing is right," she says.

The staff maintains that the pool is heated to a temperature above 30 degrees, but Chaput doesn't agree.

"The water is chilly ... it's not

particularly balmy."

When asked if getting in and out of the water in the cold weather makes her regret her swim time, Staples said.

"Sometimes I don't want to come, but it is worth it!"

Sarah Hickok prepares to hit back the tennis ball in a game against Santa Monica Community College on Feb. 13.

JULIAN JAQUEZ / THE RIP



Community support saves BC tennis teams

By **LEANNE CAVE**
Rip staff writer

The Bakersfield College men and women's tennis teams were all but canceled at the end of the 2002 spring semester.

"We were told there wasn't going to be any tennis in 2003," said Rob Slaybaugh, men's tennis coach. "As far as athletics are concerned, if you want to exist, you have to raise the money for your operational costs."

But thanks to strong community support and fund-raising, the teams will be able to compete the next three years.

"It was the tennis community that rallied around the teams," he said. "A lot of people have some kind of a tie to BC tennis, either a son or daughter has played or they played for BC at one time or another."

Slaybaugh said with the help of several professional tennis players, Bakers-

field tennis clubs, local dentist Tom Stewart, Bill Wright of Bill Wright Toyota, BC athletics director Jan Stuebbe, and the BC tennis coaches, the college was able to organize a dinner/reverse drawing at the BC gym that raised the money to keep the program going for the next three years.

The effort to save the teams was worthwhile, according to Stuebbe.

"The teams are off to a very good start," he said, "because of excellent community support and we're able to save our tennis programs."

The men's team is off to an overall 3-2 start.

"So far we are optimistic," said Slaybaugh. "We have played two of the top four teams in the conference and lost close, competitive matches, 5-4 and 6-3. It's really a bit early to tell exactly how we're going to do, it's still early in the season," said Slaybaugh.

Even though the team is young,

Slaybaugh has set his sights on at least a third-place finish in the conference and said the men's team usually finishes in the top 10 in the state.

With 14 players, Slaybaugh said nine are his "Traveler's Squad," the players who go on the road to represent BC.

The top nine players for the men's team are Janis Taurins, Brett Huggins, Nick Loudermilk, Son Le, Marcelo Mens, Payam Rahimifar, Neeraj, AJ Palisoc and Andrew Angulo. These players play singles and then team up to play doubles.

Even though the women's team is young, it also is expected to improve as the season progresses. There are only seven on the team this season, all freshmen.

As of now the women are 3-5.

"We're 0-4 in conference," said Keith Hinds, women's coach. "But we play in the toughest conference in the state and we're taking our lumps."

The women's "Traveler's Squad" con-

sists of all seven players: Larisa Dalton, Lana Johnson, Christina Randall, Sarah Hickok, Audrey Medina, Sandy Taylor and Annie Moretti.

"Johnson is our strongest singles player and also is very competitive in doubles," he said. "For us to do well, Johnson will have to step up, show some leadership and have some wins. The three people I am most happy with right now and are contributing to the team are Hickok, Taylor and Moretti. These players have the willingness to improve their game and are very dedicated."

Hinds said that the Glendale loss really upset him, because those are the matches that the team needs to win to compete in a very tough conference.

"The toughest part of the schedule is yet to be played," he said. "Santa Barbara, Ventura and Cuesta will be the toughest challenges for us. We have to win the ones like Glendale, and we should have won that one."

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Monday - Thursday — 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m., Friday — 7:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Students may purchase bluebooks and e-scanners in the Library when the Bookstore is closed.
Library hours: Mon.-Thurs., 8 a.m.-7:45 p.m. / Fri., 8 a.m.-2 p.m. / Sat., 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

