

THE RENEGADE RIP

www.therip.com

Vol. 74 • No. 13

Bakersfield College

October 3, 2003

'Steve Irwin who?'

Croc hunter has nothing on fair's Swampmaster

By JULIANNA CRISALLI
Rip staff writer

The show was about to begin, as a few members of the crowd noticed the 8-foot alligator in the nearby pond. The Swampmaster's voice came over the speakers to say, "Sit back and relax and take a journey to the swamps in Florida. You are now in Gator County."

The Swampmaster's Gator Show is only one of many shows available at the Kern County Fair, but as several spectators would agree, it is truly unique.

The Swampmaster, Jeff Quattrocchi, has been working with alligators for 12 years. He began as host of an alligator show based in Florida. After watching the interaction between man and reptile, he decided to train and become the Swampmaster. Quattrocchi now appears in about 17 cities and puts on an average of 300 shows a year with his gators.

As his performance begins, Quattrocchi informs the audience that contrary to popular belief, his act is not an alligator wrestling show.

It is an educational as well as entertaining routine used to inform the audience on the lives and physical characteristics of gators. No alligators are hurt during the program.

"People call it a wrestling show, but in reality, alligators don't know a darn thing about wrestling," said Quattrocchi. "There is no harm in the show to alligators. Gators don't play by the same rules."

Over the past dozen years, Quattrocchi has received 12 major bite injuries. When gators bite down, they can keep their jaws clenched a whole day. In his case, his fingers were only held down with the gator's teeth for a matter of minutes. It took both Quattrocchi and a friend to release the gator's grip.

Throughout the show, he explained why alligators attack people, their defense mechanisms and their favorite foods. Stunts like sitting on the gator's back and showing the crowd the alligator's 80 sharp teeth, plus a technique called bulldogging are performed. In bulldogging, Quattrocchi secures the gator's nose between his own chin and neck, leaving his hands free to tie the gator's mouth shut.

This stunt produced many groans



LEE MAXWELL / THE RIP

Jeff Quattrocchi, better known as "The Swampmaster," shows off his partner.

and gasps from the nervous onlookers.

"The jaws are the only true weapon," Quattrocchi said.

As the show comes to an end, Quattrocchi brings a guest onto the stage as he gives the following introduction: "It took hard work and sweat to capture this gator before the show." With several spurts of laughter and "awws" from the audience, Quattrocchi then brings out baby Wally, a young gator under 2 feet long.

He acquires all of his gators from an alligator farm. According to Quattrocchi, these alligators are raised like cows for their hide and

meat. As an animal lover, this does not settle well with him. When the time comes to find a new gator, which is every three to four weeks

to keep the gators fresh and defensive against the Swampmaster, he catches them himself. The gator farms are not careful with the alligators and put tape

around their mouths, resulting in the tearing of the skin. Quattrocchi said he wants to keep his gators as pretty as possible and as safe as he can.

"I go out there all day catching alligators, trying to keep them pretty," he said. When he retires his gators, they never return to the

farms. They are taken to his pond in Florida. About 100 live there.

The last six days of the fair are The Swampmaster's "A" show. This performance includes Quattrocchi lifting an 8-foot-long, 230-pound gator from the water. This is only done six out of the 12 fair days due to the strain and muscle it takes.

"I liked it when he got on the alligators' back," said 7-year-old attendee Drew Ritchie.

According to Quattrocchi, he loves seeing the little kids' eyes light up. After the show, he allows audience members to get their picture taken with baby Wally. The picture is important to the kids, he explained.

"I liked the show," said attendee Sue Colliur. "We don't see alligators out here in California so it is really nice to see. I think the kids liked it. It's exciting."

The Bard gets '50s makeover

Festival takes a new look at Shakespeare's "Richard III" and "Two Gentlemen of Verona."

By JULIANNA CRISALLI
Rip staff writer

"The Two Gentlemen of Verona" is one of two plays being prepared for this year's 20th annual Kern Shakespeare Festival.

It will be presented in 1959 America, but will keep to the original language of Shakespeare. Costumes will include jeans and full skirts instead of tights and they will be worn to the music of Buddy Holly.

The other production is the tragedy, "Richard III."

Both plays will be held in the BC Indoor Theater at 8 p.m.

"Richard III" will be performed on Oct. 8, 10, 16, 18, 22 and 24.

"The Two Gentlemen of Verona" will be showcased on Oct. 9, 11, 15, 17, 23 and 25.

"Richard III" is co-directed by Randy Messick and Pamela Soler. Messick has been part of the Shakespeare Festival for 20 years. He is active with every aspect of the production from picking the plays to selecting guest directors to help with the production. Messick will also star in the production as Richard III.

According to Messick, the crew began working on the plays during the summer, but rehearsals began about a month ago. The cast is now having daily rehearsals Monday through Friday from 4 to 10:30 p.m.

"The rehearsals are going good," said Guinevere Park-Hall, stage director and production manager for both plays. "The air conditioner is broken in the north theater. Everyone is complaining about that, but it is going good. It is always an excit-

ing process to see it go from paper to the stage."

Bob Kempf will direct "The Two Gentlemen of Verona." He has been with the festival off and on since its inception. Kempf is a part-time teacher at BC.

According to Kempf, he not only teaches the actors how they should perform the lines, but he also helps them handle the language of Shakespeare.

Kempf worked as an actor in Los Angeles for 15 years before coming to Bakersfield.

He appeared in movies, commercials and television shows, such as "Seinfeld" and "ER." Kempf will be sharing his theatrical abilities with BC through his performance in "Richard III" as the character Buckingham.

"The artistic director and I went to college and graduate school together," said Kempf. "We have always enjoyed working together."

Park-Hall assists Messick and balances communication between the artistic director, show director, costume director and others.

"I am very passionate about the festival," said Park-Hall. "It gives students a taste of professional theater and it gives the community a chance to experience repertory theater."

According to Messick, along with the Shakespeare Festival, three more plays will be performed this school year.

The plays include "The Laramie Project," "Chicago" and "Cabaret." Kim Chin is directing "The Laramie Project," which will be performed in November. Auditions for "Chicago" begin at the end of the semester.

"It is great to keep Shakespeare's plays alive," said Kempf. "It speaks to every type of person, whether you are a professor or a student. He wrote for the masses."

Powder triggers Californian closure

By VICTOR GARCIA
Managing Editor

A Bakersfield Californian employee found what she thought to be a powdery substance when she opened an envelope around 3 p.m. Tuesday, resulting in the closure of the downtown building for about two hours, according to Californian Executive Editor Mike Jenner.

The employee then notified The Californian's human resources department, which alerted authorities.

The fire, police and environmental health came and closed off the building and a couple of officers came in hazmat suits and removed

the envelopes. They took them out to analyze them but they couldn't find anything to analyze," said Jenner.

The Californian was given the all clear by authorities around 5 p.m.

Jenner said Tuesday that The Californian has a policy of not playing up bomb scares or threats. Since the television stations have led their newscasts with five-minute reports about the matter, The Californian planned to have a "very modest" story, inside the Local section, he said.

"This one wasn't even intended to be a scare. I think this was somebody See PAPER, Page 2

Instructor endures exhaustion and blisters on 224-mile trail run

By SETH NIDEVER
Rip staff writer

Take one look at 32-year-old Bakersfield College health instructor John Liccardo and you can tell he's in good shape.

How good? Good enough to hike 224 miles of Sierra wilderness in less than eight days. Good enough to think about repeating it at a faster pace.

Good enough, in fact, to make the rest of us feel like blobs of fat.

Liccardo recently completed a speed hike of the John Muir Trail, a rugged route between Yosemite and Mount Whitney featuring high passes, pristine lakes and the highest point in the lower 48 states.

It was enough to capture Liccardo's fancy the first time he

learned about it.

"I was in a used bookstore and I came across a book about the John Muir Trail and so I started looking at it and I thought, '211 miles for the trail,' I thought, 'That's runnable,'" he said.

Runnable enough for Liccardo to do it in exactly seven days, five hours and 18 minutes.

To go faster, Liccardo brought only what he figured was necessary to stay alive in an emergency. A pair of tights, a long sleeve top, raingear, socks, a hat and some snacks — that was about it.

"If I kept moving with...with all that stuff on, I'd stay warm enough that, you know, I wouldn't die," he said.

Heavier items like a sleeping bag and cooking gear were packed in five

of the seven nights by friends and family, who braved often brutal climbs and long distances to camp with him for a night before hiking with the heavy items out the next day.

"I was definitely indebted to the people who helped me," he said. "Most of them had rough hikes and a few of them looked worse than me when they showed up."

To keep everybody updated on his progress, Liccardo had them leave messages on his answering machine.

"Everybody had access, you know, live updates," he said.

Despite his superb conditioning and all the help, there were times when Liccardo wanted to quit. Especially on the grueling 36-mile-long second day, the trip's longest.

"I think I got a little bit dehydrated

and I was throwing up," he said. "It was generally pretty unpleasant."

Another bad moment came below 12,000-foot Pinchot Pass. Leaping across a swollen creek in the rain, Liccardo strained a groin muscle. He was within two days of the finish.

"I was cold, and I was wet, and I was exhausted and I just wanted to die," he said with a laugh.

Most of the difficulties, however, were anticipated, he said. Take the heavily blistered feet, for example.

"You kind of just accept it, you know," he said. "You bring a lot of duct tape and wrap everything up and just keep going."

By the time he reached the end at 14,495-foot Mount Whitney, Liccardo was ready for anything. The final climb to the top — a lung-



PHOTO COURTESY OF JOHN LICCARDO

John Liccardo enjoys the end of the trail at Mount Whitney.

See LICCARDG, Page 2

Security: More than just tickets

By JESSICA REED
Rip staff writer

It's a lot cheaper to buy a campus parking pass than it is to pay for a parking ticket at Bakersfield College. That's what some students found out during a recent patrol of parking lots made by college security.

Sgt. Chris Counts gave out four tickets within a few minutes to students who were illegally parked. Each will cost \$25. The cost for a semester parking pass is \$20.

But campus security involves more than just giving tickets, according to campus security Chief Mark L. Graf.

"Basically the security is to ensure that when people come to get an education, they have a safe place to do it and that they can focus on their education without any distractions," Graf said.

While campus security officers do not carry guns, they carry pepper spray, a night stick and handcuffs. They can detain a suspect and call Bakersfield Police Department to take custody. Along with 10 security officers, BC is patrolled by BPD Officer Dave Shriver.

"We have enough security. We have as much as is necessary and you'll find it wherever it's needed," said Graf.

Besides officers, BC also has blue call boxes which can be used by anyone on campus to call security. Officers also provide escort service to and from cars. Students can call for escorts at anytime or to report a problem at 395-4554.

"We need security here on campus," Graf said. "Even though we may not have emergencies to tend to at all times, when there is, we're here. It's like car insurance, you may not use it for a couple of years, but when you do get in that accident you are happy you have it. It's nice to have and in today world, we need it."

How to appeal tickets

Did you receive a parking ticket? Do you feel it was unfair? You can appeal your ticket. You can go to the Campus Security office and get an appeal form. Fill it out and take it to the office. You'll get a copy for your own records. It will then be processed in seven to 10 business days. You will be notified if it will be dismissed or not.

If it's not dismissed, your next option is to meet with a hearing committee when one comes on campus. You can either write a check or money order that will be held until the judge decides. Your ticket will be appealed or dismissed. If dismissed, your check or money order will be returned.

"Make sure you are careful where you park, because if it's illegal, you're getting a \$25 ticket," said campus security Sgt. Chris Counts.



Cheerleaders Niki Nicholson, left, and Amanda Schulte paint banners for rally.

Cheering on the Team

Campus Center was the stage for a pep rally held Sept. 25 to show support for the football team.

Cheerleaders along with Reggie, the college mascot, were part of the party. Football players joined in by participating in a pie-eating contest.

Posters made by the cheerleaders wished the team well. BC triumphed over LA Valley 35-20.



BARRY LIPSON / THE RIP

Above: Blake Goehring, aka Reggie the Renegade, and cheerleader Sonya Moreno show their support.

Left: BC football players Joe Erwin, Isaac Smith and David Buntig participate in the pie-eating contest at the pep rally.



AARON STEWART / THE RIP

LICCARDO: Instructor braves John Muir Trail

Continued from Page 1

for many — was covered at a run.

"At that point I was done, so I could do anything, because I was so happy that I didn't have to sleep out another night," he said.

Liccardo said the clouds cleared up just enough to give him a fantastic view.

His view of the trip as a whole was more ambivalent.

"At the time I was doing it I was, like, 'I'm never doing this again,'" he said, while admitting that he might do it over "if I could sucker somebody else into doing it with me."

He said he is considering doing the Pacific Crest Trail, an approximately 2,000-mile route from Mexico to Canada of which the Muir Trail is a short segment.

"If I did the same distance (as the Muir Trail), 200 miles a year, it would take me ten years to do the whole thing," he said. "And that might be kind of fun."

Just don't plan on keeping up with Liccardo.

PAPER: Doors close temporarily during scare

Continued from Page 1

paying their bill or something," said Jenner.

The incident was more of a distraction than anything else.

"Until they figured out what it was, we just kept on working in here," said Jenner.

"It did not impede the production of the newspaper."



DARREN AMOS / THE RIP

Firefighters and hazardous waste officials cordon off Eye Street in front of The Californian on Tuesday.

U.S. pays price for Iraqi freedom

By SETH NIDEVER
Rip staff writer

The more money spent on Iraq and the more American soldiers killed there, the clearer it becomes that the Bush administration vastly overestimated the ease with which reconstruction could be accomplished.

It remains to be seen whether it can be accomplished at all. President Bush, Condoleezza Rice and Donald Rumsfeld may have been brilliant in the execution of the war, but it is now evident that the task of nation-building they have stumbled into is going to be overwhelmingly difficult to pull off, particularly with a skeptical U.N. refusing to offer significant financial support.

Spurring international distaste is the glaring fact that a massive CIA-led search has yielded no weapons of mass destruction and no firm conclusions about the likelihood that they will be found. Unless it can be shown that they existed, the entire justification for the war — and, by extension, the occupation — collapses. Freeing the oppressed Iraqis and establishing a "democratizing" Iraq — to use Condoleezza Rice's word — should not be accepted as valid reasons. North Korea and Iran are equally repressive and are known to possess weapons of mass destruction, yet we hear no rhetoric about the absolute necessity of invading them.

If, as it appears, no weapons are going to be found, then the intelligence was questionable at best and the war was therefore based on the assumption that Saddam Hussein had them or weapon capability. At the same time, the administration has admitted that there was no known connection between Saddam and al-Qaida. Presumably, Bush feared Saddam might support al-Qaida at some future point. Thus, the war was not a last resort, whatever the rhetoric. Bush traded a hypothetical future threat for the very real threats of increasingly broad-based anti-occupation opinion in Iraq, strong anti-American fervor worldwide and the increasing popularity of Middle East terrorist groups.

The decision to go to war in Iraq represented a major over-estimation of U.S. power and an underestimation of the importance of multilateralism in the war on terror. We are paying the price for that overestimation as we embark on a dubious reconstruction effort with little international support.

Former BC president appreciates dedication

I was profoundly touched, and very appreciative for the honor of having the Campus Center named after me. In the course of my years at Bakersfield College, many memorable things happened to me along the way, but having my name go up on the Campus Center ranks right up there at the top.

My election association with the students of the college goes way back to 1958-66 when I was first director of student activities, and then that of students.

During those years I attended Board of Representatives meetings, sometimes the Student Court meetings, and I was very close to the total student activities program. I have stayed in touch with many of the students that I worked with in those days, and this has been very gratifying to me.

I have always thought of the Campus Center as the locus of student life on campus, so it is a particular honor to have this building bear my name. For nearly 50 years the students have been gathering in the Campus Center for all kinds of activities and events. Going to college should be something more than just taking classes and getting the right piece of paper as a result. It is a time for maturing, a time to entertain all kinds of new ideas; and an opportunity to test your ideas against those of other students, both in the classroom and out there in the Campus Center.

I am particularly honored that my name will be associated with the students of today's generations to come. Students are forever young, with a new crop every year. As they carry on the traditions of Bakersfield College, I will symbolically be with them, meeting there in the Collins Campus Center. That hits home to me, and I will forever be appreciative for this wonderful gesture that the students and the college have extended to me.

I spent 40 years on the Bakersfield College campus working with and for students. And now, my name will always be connected with the students of this fine college. I am honored, humbled and grateful.

Dr. John J. Collins



MAR JO JONES / THE RIP

Telemarketers get clear dial tone

Americans should have the right to privacy and the right to a do-not-call list

By JENNIFER MILLS
Opinion Editor

Telemarketers are going to keep calling, thanks to federal Judge Edward Nottingham who ruled the national do-not-call list a violation of free speech.

Americans should all call Nottingham and remind him of the right to privacy.

It is the right of the public to be taken out of the yellow pages, to block telemarketers and to press the "unsubscribe" button on a porn advertisement in their children's e-mail. It is the right

of every citizen to throw away junk mail without opening it, to download a program that blocks pop-up advertisements and to block users of instant messaging programs. Just as it is America's right to do all of these things, it is the citizen's right to be put on a do-not-call list.

But Nottingham's ruling made it possible for telemarketers to continue to make calls to those 50 million Americans who have already registered for it.

"Americans are bombarded daily by unwanted

telemarketers," said U.S. Rep. Zach Wamp, R-Tenn., the Chattanooga Times-Free Press.

"We must allow consumers the choice to stop these calls, and I will continue to support allowing citizens to decide for themselves. I hope this ruling is overturned."

Telemarketing businesses and advocates against the list argue that it violates "commercial free speech" because it allows charities and other organizations to disregard the list when making calls. But if they are acknowledging that there is a difference between com-

merce and charity, then what is the problem?

Telemarketers are the reason so many homes are equipped with caller ID. It's not just for unwanted relatives or stalkers, but sales calls during dinner.

In fact, telemarketers should be pleased about the do-not-call list. It should put a smile on their faces knowing that they don't have to waste time with people who don't want to talk to them and are just going to hang up or be rude. And do telemarketers think calling the

people on the list is going to get any better now that what are angry about the judge's decision?

The government should not be able to give telemarketers the right to call anybody they want. The do-not-call list is an invasion of privacy and should continue to put restrictions on telemarketing businesses.

According to the judge, telemarketers can continuously call consumers after they have listened and said that they do not want their products.

This should not be called "freedom of speech" and should not be legal.

Spam: Bake it, fry it, put it in my e-mail box

By DANIELLA WILLIAMS
Assistant Opinion Editor

When I first began my sojourn into the Net, I would log into my e-mail account and expect to see a letter from a friend. Life, however, is not so simple. I was met with an avalanche of advertisements for credit cards, home loans and penis enlargers. Oddly enough, I don't seem to receive many offers for breast augmentation. Either the companies who send this junk think I'm an idiot, old enough to own a home, or a man.

Spam is a business that is not going to leave our techno society soon, if at all. As long as people buy into junk mail scams and ads, the industry will continue. Web sites like www.paulgraham.com have links to some of the most ef-

fective filters, but nothing is 100 percent accurate. So, like the Pollyanna I am, I've learned to live with my spam.

Despite its annoying properties, I've come to see spam as the bratty kid sis I never had. How can I sustain anger over something as trivial as herbal Viagra and urgent love letters from unknown e-mail addresses? Spam, however, is not all bugs and puppies.

Scams like this have been taking in pigeons since the 1970s. It has several variations, usually involving several hundreds of dollars needed to be smuggled out of Africa. According to Creative Loafing Atlanta, a weekly newspaper, the Nigerian scam's biggest victims were the Ghasemis, an Iranian-American couple who lost \$400,000 over a three-

month period in 2000. The couple came up with the cash by liquidating their savings, mortgaging their house and borrowing from friends. If there is a lesson to be learned here, it is that these e-mails are not something to trust or take seriously.

It's my personal choice to delete all bogus mail, but when I feel like indulging in the wild world of spam, I go to spamradio.com, whose crowning glory is some of the more ridiculous e-mails set to music.

In a way, spam is a unifying force for our society. Everyone hates it. No offense to telemarketers, but the only thing I dislike more than receiving junk e-mail is an unsolicited call. At least spammers aren't calling homes at dinner time.



MAR JO JONES / THE RIP

BBQ SANDWICHES
(Beef, Chicken, Sausage)
\$4
Saturdays
7:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Bakersfield College
Farmers Market
(Memorial Stadium
at Mt. Vernon)

Southside Camera
Your one stop for all your photo needs.
Photo supplies.
3504 Mt. Vernon Ave.
400-4220

SKYDIVE TAFT
STUDENT DISCOUNT
VIDEO ... \$70
TANDEM ... \$140
ACCELERATED FREEFALL ... \$240
(661) 785-JUMP www.skydivetaft.com

ATTENTION STUDENTS
Students will not be notified of registration appointments by mail. Students can check their spring 2004 registration appointments in the Registration Status section of the Registration Menu on RegWeb beginning October 1, 2003.

CLASSIFIEDS

TREK Bicycle for sale
700 Hybrid Series
\$325 OBO
873-2932

Get the Latest Campus News

Supreme Bean
• Coffee
• Espresso
• Caesar's Deli Express
• Open 7 a.m. daily
3601 Mt. Vernon Ave.
Across from the BC football field

Write a letter to the editor and drop it by The Rip Office in Campus Center, or e-mail: ripmail@bakersfieldcollege.edu

Check With Us!
• Free checking - Easy Access Checking (Up to first 10 checks per month)
• VISA® Check Card (Use your VISA® Check Card in place of checks.)
HIGH SCHOOLS
Use our ATM in the BC Bookstore!
Visit us on the internet at www.bfcu.org
833-7900

Bank of America
Introducing Bank of America ePayments—CompuEdge® checking. CompuEdge checking gives students the freedom to bank the way they want, including:
• Free, unlimited Online Banking with Bill Pay service
• No monthly fee for the years if your parent has any Bank of America account, or no monthly fee if you have monthly direct deposit
• A Staff Response™ card — a credits refund of an unexpected service fee
• Free, unlimited toll-free visits
• Free, unlimited access to the account at Bank of America ATM, America's largest branch-based ATM network
• Bank of America Year® Check Card with Total Security Protection®
And right now CompuEdge checking is free for everyone. Business we know you have a lot going on, we'll make the monthly fee until June 1, 2004.
Plus, you can take advantage of our other products and services:
• Student Visa Gold credit card with no annual fee and the new mini card
• Savings accounts — a great way to set aside money for emergencies
• Checking account overdraft protection
• Adjustable dividend loans
• Website tools on bankofamerica.com that can help students plan ways to meet future financial needs.
So don't wait. Take the first step to financial independence. Bring this Star to a neighborhood Bank of America and open a CompuEdge checking account today.
Bank of America College Heights
2838 Owens Street
Bakersfield, CA 93306
Rick Garcia - 398.2872
Diane Basso - 398.2270
Stop by your local banking center and talk to one of our Personal Bankers about opening your CompuEdge checking account today.
Bank of America, N.A. Member FDIC. ©2003 Bank of America Corporation.

THE RENEGADE RIP
Editor in Chief: Roger Hornback
Managing Editor: Victor Garcia
Copy Editor: Jarrod M. Graham
Photo Editor: Lee Maxwell
Online Editor: Shawn Holloway
Page Editors: Jeff Eagan, Ian Hamilton, Jennifer Mills, Courba Tamboura, Daniella Williams
Reporters: Jeanette Alvarez, Julianna Crisalli, Carisa A. Dalton, Renee Elliott, Erik Klassen, Vincent Lopez, Seth Nidever, Jessica Reed, Janessa Sanchez, Kimberly "Tazz" Thomas, Elizabeth Whitcomb
Photographers: Darren Amos, Melva Hodge, Andrea Irvin, Dennis Mahan, Leslie Reyes, Barry Lipson, Cole Siemens, Aaron Stewart, Stephen Taylor, Alex Tamayo, Christopher Wong
Graphic Artists: Kris Brasier, Mar Jo Jones, Jeremy Vandever
Advisor: Kathy Freeman
Business Manager: Robin Johnson
Photo Instructor: Carol Barnett
Photo Advisor: Casey Christie

'GADE FEEDBACK
Compiled by Andrea Irvin / The Rip
Do you feel downloading music is right? Why?
Isabel Espindola, business: "I think downloading music is not wrong, because not everyone can afford to buy CDs in the stores."
David Gardner, nursing: "I like the idea, on the other hand it is copyright infringement."
Selen Kalaycigi, business: "I feel it's right, 'cause I don't like to buy a CD for just one song."
Benjamin Oyeka, computer science: "What's the use of putting it on the Internet if you don't want it down loaded?"
Sharon Chatman, undeclared: "Yeah, because CDs cost too much and everyone likes music as long as it's just for you."

FEATURES

Event fosters community spirit

By JULIANNA CRISALLI
Rip staff writer

Children of various ages from Studio 106 danced to hip hop music under the direction of choreographer Laquette Milner. The dancing was one of several events at Fun Day, a recent event sponsored by Mothers Against Senseless Killings held at Martin Luther King Jr. Park.

Members of the community gathered at the park to enjoy face painting, a bounce house along with dancing and singing from various individuals. The purpose of the day was to bring the community together and inspire youth, according to Shirley Harris, MASK vice president.

"We have several goals, the first is for the youth," said Harris. "They hear about the bad things all the time. I want them to see the community coming together doing something positive."

MASK began in January 2003, after a nephew of Mickey Sturdivant, MASK president and founder, was killed. That instance drove her to do something about neighborhood killings.

"We are a support group to bring healing to people," said Sturdivant. "You are not supposed to bury your child."

MASK is a volunteer group in the community. All of their services to families and youth are free. MASK



Jeremiah R. Johnson, 4, gets his face painted by BC graduate Courtney Purcell.

LEE MAXWELL / THE RIP

organized Fun Day after the July 8 Harper family tragedy. The park had various booths, all community volunteered.

"I think this is good for the community, the kids especially. Maybe it will inspire the kids to come and participate in this sort of thing and get them off the streets," said attendee McKinley Norwood.

Milner teaches ages 3 to adult at Studio 106, and was the first to bring hip-hop to the streets Milner said.

"This gives everyone a chance to

do something for their kids," said Milner. "It shows the kids they can do something with their life. No matter what music, it's something people will enjoy."

Teen Challenge, a faith-based program focused on helping teens with problems, also took part in the festivities. They created a program called Kids Club that meets at the park every Saturday to teach children about Christian values.

"Seeing people changing is great," said Derek Roth of Teen Challenge. "We try to change kids'

lives, we do all we can."

Earlier this year, MASK organized a Mother's Day luncheon. The group hopes to make both the luncheon and the Fun Day annual events. For Thanksgiving, the members plan to hand out food to the homeless and a Christmas giveaway.

"We need to get behind our young people in the community," said Sturdivant. "Nothing is going to change, we have to get in there and have some intervention and prevention."

'Matchstick Men' flickers faintly, but fails to ignite

By ERIK KLASSEN
Rip staff writer

The film "Matchstick Men" can be described in many different ways. At times, it's a mildly goofy comedy about Roy (Nicolas Cage), a con artist with a large assortment of nervous ticks and obsessive behaviors,

MOVIE REVIEW

who routinely goes through massive cleaning sprees, multiple lock checks and repetitive food purchases, all while scamming people out of their money with the help of his partner, Frank, played by Sam Rockwell.

It also can be described as a heart-felt drama. Early on in the film, Roy comes to know his 14-year-old daughter, Angela (Alison Lohman). Obviously, Roy has to choose between the security of his "business" and the relationship he is trying to develop with Angela. Can a man who can't handle an open door without twitching nervously handle all that comes with having a teenaged daughter?

Ridley Scott directs this 116-minute lighthearted crime comedy that was a far better film than what was presented in the trailer. Luckily, it adds to Scott's list of enjoyable films like "Gladiator" or "Alien3,"

instead of putting another credit on his less-than-remarkable list of works such as "Hansel," "Black Rain" or "1492." The film has an interesting editing style that kept it going at a nice pace.

It was fun watching obsessive-compulsive Roy lose complete control of his immaculate house to his less-than-tidy daughter, as well as see some of the interesting and creative ways someone can con people out of their money. The three main characters play well off each other throughout the film, even during some of its weaker moments.

Although it was an enjoyable film, "Matchstick Men" probably is not one that will be remembered for too terribly long. It wasn't Cage's best work, but at the same time, it wasn't even close to his worst, either. It's definitely worth the price of admission, as long as you aren't expecting an action-packed blockbuster, even though the last third of the film takes a surprisingly twisted turn for such a solidly PG-13 movie.

With a great cast of characters, snoring gaps and a few mild twists in the second half, "Matchstick Men" is a film that stands on its own. Yet at the same time, it's one of those movies that won't be hard to sit through, but once it's over, might still be easy to forget.

SPORTS

'Gades win against L.A. Valley College

Five touchdowns add 35-20 victory to BC record

By IAN HAMILTON
Sports Editor

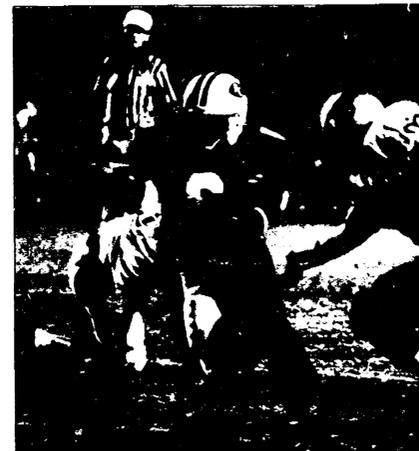
Bakersfield College Renegade football is 3-1 overall after a win against L.A. Valley College on Sept. 27.

While the 35-20 victory is a plus for BC, a loss to Moorpark the week before leaves the team with a 1-1 record for the Western State Conference North Division.

The first score of the game came from Rickey Herod in the first quarter, putting Bakersfield ahead 7-0 after the extra point.

Bakersfield ran another touchdown with Derek Kielkopf while quarterback George Valos threw two touchdowns to Kenny Jackson and Michael Cooper. The final touchdown for BC was a returned interception by Jimmy Jenkins.

This Saturday's game against Allan Hancock will be the Renegade's last at home until Homecoming on Oct. 25.

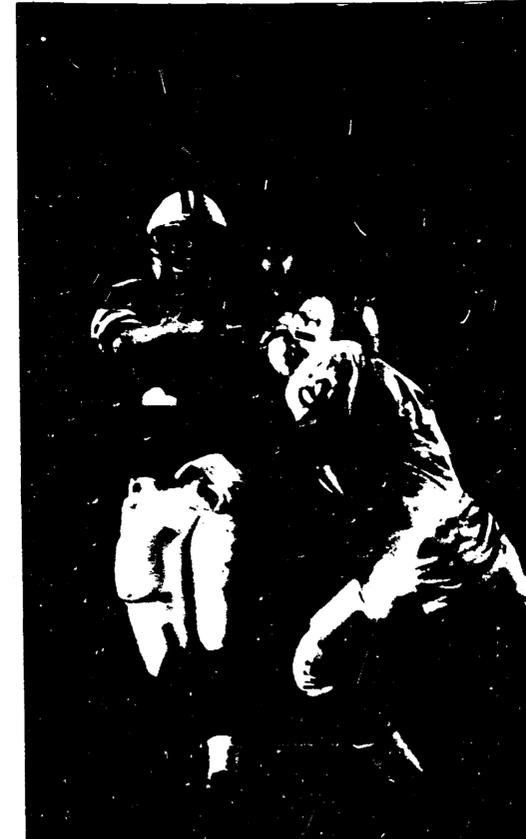


Above: Renegade running back Rickey Herod jukes Monarch linebacker Steven Sherrod on his way to the end zone.



Left: Monarch linebacker Adam Caruthers dives at Renegade running back Rickey Herod.

Photos: by Roger Hornback / The Rip



Safety Gioranni Salinas puts BC quarterback George Valos under pressure.

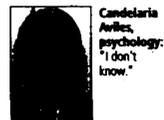
BRAINS

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

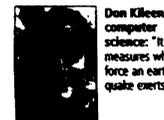
What does a seismograph measure?



Jeremy Baskinridge, English: "It measures the level of an earthquake, which stems from the epicenter."



Candekaria Aviles, psychology: "I don't know."



Don Kileen, computer science: "It measures what force an earthquake exerts."



Randall Martin, undeclared: "I don't even know what that is!"



Ross Alexander, undeclared: "Earthquakes, right?"



Laurel Beklow, art: "I have no idea."

Correct answer: A seismograph is an instrument that automatically detects and records the intensity of earthquakes.

WE GAINED WEIGHT

Seen our Scholarship Channel lately?

We've added over 250,000 brand new scholarships and revamped our entire site to give you more accurate search results!

We've changed. Come and see.

Check Out Renegade Rip's Scholarship Channel at:

www.therip.com/scholarships

powered by: **ProScholar**

REJECT FAKE FREE CHECKING

TRULY FREE CHECKING

Tell your bank the jig is up. You're done with their monthly fees. You're done jumping through hoops. You're done with fake free checking and you're ready for Washington Mutual's truly Free Checking account. Truly free, with no monthly fee, no matter what your balance, no direct deposit requirement, no per-check charges and no charge to talk to a teller or telephone bank. That's no hidden fees, period. Reject your bank's fakery. Go to any Washington Mutual Financial Center or call 1-800-788-7000 and switch to truly Free Checking today.

NO FEE TO TALK TO A TELLER OR TELEPHONE BANKER
NO MONTHLY FEE
NO MINIMUM DEPOSIT REQUIREMENT
NO PER-CHECK CHARGES
NO PER-CHECK CHARGE
NO PER-CHECK CHARGE
NO PER-CHECK CHARGE

Washington Mutual
MORE BURNING INTEREST.



No degree shall take more than three years to complete.

Transfer to National University, and you can earn your bachelor's degree in less than three years. High quality education in an accelerated timeframe.

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMS AT NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

<p>NU at Bakersfield: Associate of Arts BA in Behavioral Science BA in Management BS in Liberal Studies</p>	<p>BA in Interdisciplinary Studies Bachelor of Business Administration</p>	<p>Online Programs Include: BA in Global Studies BS in Accountancy BS in Criminal Justice BS in Nursing</p>
--	--	---

1.800.NAT.UNIV  WWW.NU.EDU

Playing with Fire

Have you seen the torch juggler? It's just another day at the Kern County Fair

By **JEFF EAGAN**
Features Editor

Performing at fairs, festivals, halftime shows and soon to be on television's "Ripley's Believe It or Not," Chaz Marquette's 20 years of juggling experience and enthusiastic love for laughter label him as an obscure, but touching oddity among fair entertainers everywhere.

After the "Little Big Top" show had ended, droves of fairgoers migrated toward the side stage to witness the juggler extraordinaire. Marquette's performance at side stage just off the midway seemed perceptibly impromptu. But maybe it was the crackling of the announcer's voice through the loudspeaker, or a chance to rest my feet while being entertained is what drew me. It struck me as opportunistic so I grabbed the closest bench. I mean haystack.

To tell you the truth, the first couple of tricks Marquette started with deserved more than the lack of recognition that came with their execution.

Seriously, a guy balancing a 2-foot machete on his tongue after juggling three tennis balls with a metal fold-out chair nervously teetering on his chin at least deserves some applause.

But not until Marquette jokingly pleaded with them did a few placate his dangerously manic stunts onstage with scattered approval. Every show is different depending on the audience.

The crowd was thoroughly Hispanic and lent itself to some trademark Marquette Spanglish.

"It's a variation of the same show, but I'll be here all week so you can never tell what you'll get," he said.

He feels that comedy is necessary for his success.

"You have to incorporate comedy or you'll lose your audience," he said. "I like to have the audience involved because it's more improvisational."

He carefully chose two young audience members to participate in his finale. "Boy was I curious to see what he

had in store for the giggling children approaching anxiously.

"Now get right next to me," he called. As he took a lofty seat above his unicycle, he ignited three torches and balanced precariously on one wheel while the boy placed a small ring on his leg.

"This isn't cable TV folks, it's the real thing. We all need to get involved," he said, beckoning the audience to match his excitement onstage. With the final applause, I was left somewhat unsatisfied which the lure of greasy food quickly remedied.

After a corn dog, I sauntered into the Budweiser Pavilion to find something that you wouldn't think to see at the fair. Before I could finish my thought, pop! The sudden backfire from a dirt bike shot from the entrance to the gate as the acrid smell of gasoline fumes hung underneath the metal bleachers. Amid the high squeals of several bikes revving just a few feet away, a writer named R. Scott Allred, local author of "Dead Gold," a work of historical fiction set in the Philippines, hawked his book. What would these gas hogs care about

drill hands from America discovering a secret Japanese World War Two gold stash?

"My friend is the promoter of the event and he just gave me the opportunity to sit in front of 7000, and I couldn't pass it up," Allred said. As for sales, "just a couple, not really my best market for my book."

Leaving the pavilion I foolishly decided to try a game. The fast-talking carny calling himself Matt was a veteran for only eight months, but the way he pandered the prospect of fortune, \$2 seemed a reasonable sacrifice. The point of the game was to sink four billiard balls in the order of your choice.

Failing miserably, I cursed every carny who ever existed and made my way toward the exit. Maybe years ago everything I saw were through the corn-battered glasses of a child, but the fair this time around was not so magnificent.



IAN HAMILTON / THE RIP



IAN HAMILTON / THE RIP

Above: Mark Rodriguez and his son, Matthew Allred, 4, enjoy their last day together for five months. Rodriguez is in the Marines and soon will leave for North Carolina.

Right: Madison Schnutzer, 9, fearlessly jumps and spins upside down at the fair.

Below: A view that few fairgoers see can be found at the top of the bungee ride platform.



IAN HAMILTON / THE RIP



SHAWN HOLLOWAY / THE RIP

Above: "This isn't cable TV folks, it's the real thing," Chaz Marquette tells the crowd as he straddles a unicycle while juggling three fiery torches. The fair performer also balances a 2-foot machete on his tongue as part of his show.

Left: Thirteen-year-old Sherri Cruse flies in the air during a beginner race at the Kern County Fair on Sept. 28. The show, Central California Arena Cross, was held three nights in the fair grandstand.



DARREN AMOS / THE RIP

Left: Jessica Hernandez, 10, fills a bottle with colored sand at one of the booths at the fair.



LEE MAXWELL / THE RIP



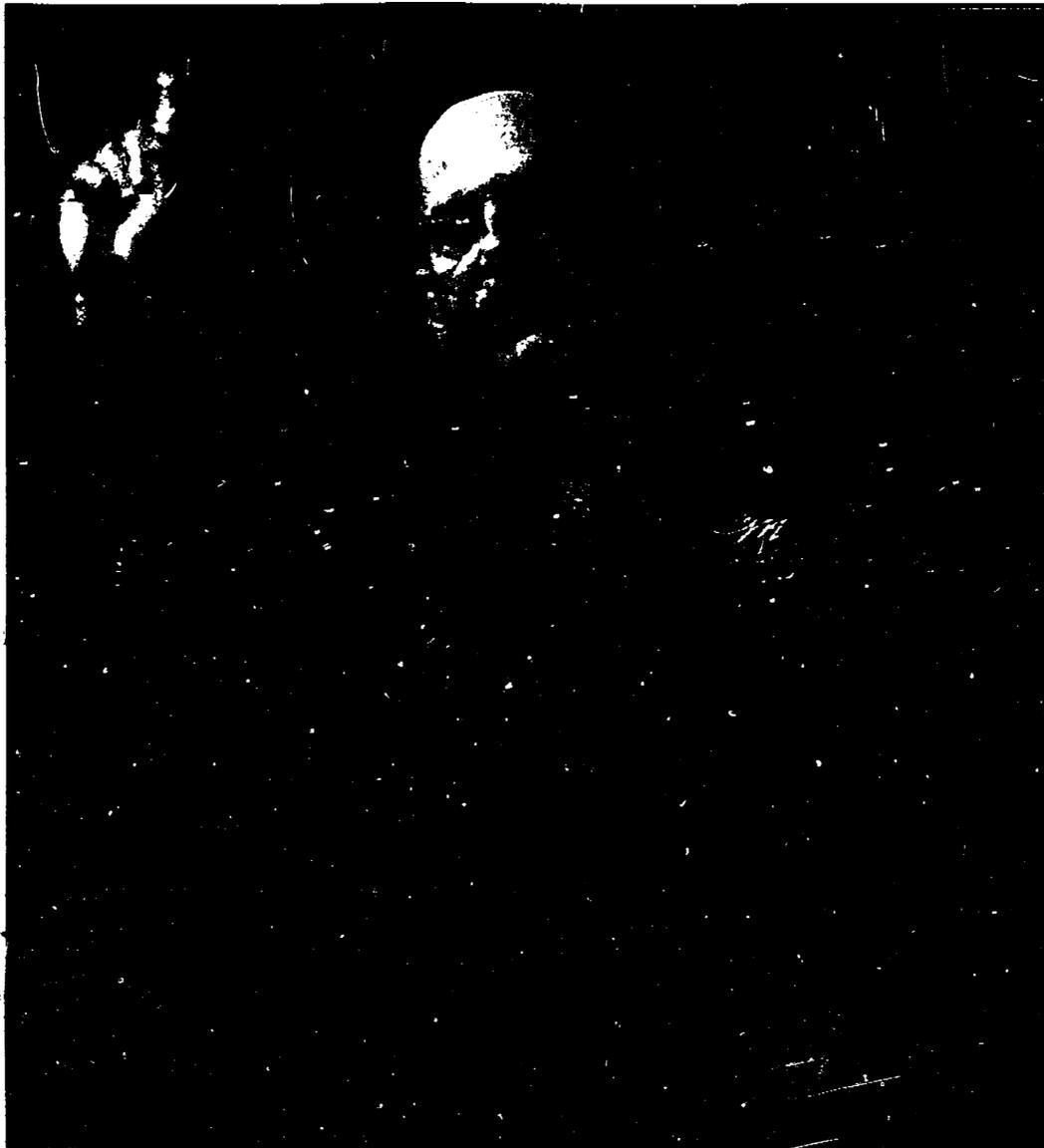
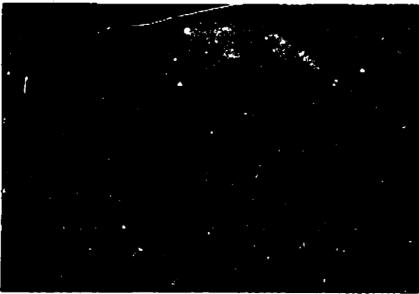
THE RENEGADE RIP

www.therip.com

Vol. 74 • No. 14

Bakersfield College

October 17, 2003



Former Minnesota Gov. Jesse Ventura talks about his contempt for the press. "The media today is not out to report the news to you — they are out to create the news," he said.

Photos by Roger Hornback / The Rip

Quotable Moments

"The two-party system is terrific. It gives us one more choice than communist Russia does."

— Jesse Ventura, on the U.S. political system

...

"I know Arnold Schwarzenegger. He's a very nice guy, but my Uncle Saul is a very nice guy and he shouldn't be president or governor, either."

— Alan King, on California's new governor

...

"And now sr'all boys weep on their mothers' knees and say, 'Why can't I grow up to be president?'"

— Mary Robinson, former president of Ireland, on the fact she was succeeded by a woman

...

"Today, first base is groping, feeling, kissing, which today is called tonsil hockey, which I think is a tremendous improvement over French kissing. Second base is oral sex, third base is going all the way. Home plate is being introduced."

— Tom Wolfe, author, discussing what he calls the "seven-minute seduction" among college students

...

"I remember one day, he had made up one of his words. I think it was, 'misunderestimate.' Whenever that happens, I joked his brain worked faster than his mouth does. And it happened to be the same day he had called the terrorists 'folks.' It was up to me to say, 'Mr. President, these are trained killers. You might not want to be calling them folks.' And he, of course, said, 'Well, there are bad folks in the world, too.'"

— Karen Hughes, former communications director for George W. Bush, on working for the president

'The Body' SLAMS the media

Ventura puts smackdown on the press, two-party politics in speech at annual event

By IAN HAMILTON • Sports Editor

Jesse Ventura criticized politics as usual and the news media in front of a flag-waving crowd at the 19th annual Bakersfield Business Conference. And he made sure the thousands of people under the big tent at the Borton, Petrini & Conron event knew he was no Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Ventura, former governor of Minnesota and pro wrestler, said there were extensive dissimilarities between Schwarzenegger's campaign for governor and his own.

"If you look at the Republican platform, they are not pro-choice, they are not for gay rights, yet Schwarzenegger is,"

Ventura said. "Arnold should have run as an independent. He didn't need the Republicans, they needed him. Arnold could have won without them. Trust me, I did it."

Ventura explained that the similarities between him and Schwarzenegger are limited to the fact that they both starred in the film "Predator" and they are not career politicians.

"All you simply did out here, now, is you went from a Democrat to a Republican. There isn't really much difference, ladies and gentlemen, there truly isn't," he said.

Ventura said U.S. politics are twisted by
See VENTURA, Page 3

Former first lady Nancy Reagan watches a video tribute to the love she and her husband, former President Ronald Reagan, have shared for each other over the years.



ROGER HORNBACK / THE RIP

Conference pays tribute to 'greatest love story'

By VICTOR GARCIA
Managing Editor

The audience at the Bakersfield Business Conference waited in anticipation for George Martin to announce the surprise guest.

"As we came up on our 20th anniversary and what may be our last business conference we wanted to pay tribute to the man who really helped make this conference and that was President Reagan and we thought, 'Who could we have come and join us that would symbolize Ronald Reagan?' Nobody symbolizes better than the person who's going to come out," said Martin, the conference organizer.

By then, the crowd knew who the surprise guest was and they waited anxiously to give Nancy Reagan a welcome she would not forget.

Waving their American flags, the audience gave Reagan a loud standing ovation that lasted nearly a minute.

"Thank you, thank you very much," she said.

The former first lady invited conference-goers to visit the Reagan Library in Simi Valley.

"There's a lot to see," she said, as the crowd applauded.

Martin later came onstage to tell her that the conference had put together a short video with the song "Through the Years" to pay tribute to her and her husband.

"I think when the history books are written, I don't think I know, you two are going to be the greatest love story in American government," Martin said.

The video showed pictures of the
See REAGAN, Page 3

BAKERSFIELD BUSINESS CONFERENCE



IAN HAMILTON / THE RIP

Right: Tony Award-winning singer Michel Bell kicks off the conference with performances of "The Star-Spangled Banner" and "I Believe."

Below left: Nancy Hall of Bakersfield looks up the schedule of speakers. This conference was her fifth.

Below right: From left, Karen Kirk and Chris and Marie Iden of North Fork take a break in the conference rest area.

After the Rush



DARREN AMOS / THE RIP



DARREN AMOS / THE RIP

Quotable Moments

"How many of you really like those people you had Thanksgiving dinner with? Do you really like them all? Then don't go! Why are you going to grandmother's house if she's a witch? Stay home. Live your life according to what's right for you."

— Deborah Norville, on living your life with confidence

"I believe that one reason why we were able to get a peace agreement in Northern Ireland after 30 years of war ... is that the public became exhausted with war and women became an active political force in Northern Ireland for the first time."

— George Mitchell, on how he was able to bring peace to Northern Ireland

"This was without a doubt a victory. Bittersweet ... but we weren't about to leave our fallen comrades."

— Matt Eversmann, on the events depicted in the movie "Black Hawk Down"

BAKERSFIELD BUSINESS CONFERENCE

Comedian Alan King holds court

By VICTOR GARCIA
Managing Editor

Alan King gave his comedic take on the California recall in the media tent Saturday at the Bakersfield Business Conference.

"I think it's a cartoon. It's a field day for Jay Leno and it took a lot of the steam out of Larry King," the comedian said.

"I know Arnold Schwarzenegger. He's a very nice guy, but my Uncle Saul is a very nice guy and he shouldn't be president or governor, either."

He then went on to the main tent where he entertained the crowd. King began by making fun of

Bakersfield.

"The driver said as we were coming, he said, 'There's the Bakersfield skyline' and we were already downtown. This place was flatter than Phyllis Diller's chest."

He went on to say Bakersfield looks like Paris compared to French Lake, Ind., where he shot a film once.

King, who also is an author, actor, producer and TV personality, shared his views on aging.

"You know when you're getting old, it's when people tell you how good you look. They never tell young people, 'You look good.'"

"Out on the lawn, someone said to me, 'Alan King, you never

change,' and I realized he had double cataracts and was talking to the tent."

King complained about doctors telling him to control his diet.

"There's no food made that I can eat. Nothing," he said. "I can't have red meat. I can't have dairy products. I can't have coffee. I can't have sugar."

King recalled a conversation he had with his mentor, George Burns, on Burns' 90th birthday. King said he asked Burns, "How's your sex life?"

Burns replied, "It's like shooting pool with a rope," according to King. He joked about how he quit smoking.

"I stopped smoking about eight

years ago. I don't miss it," King said. "It's like reformed drunks, nobody should drink. I don't miss the cigars, but I walk behind buses every once in a while. Good healing."

King said that he has been married for 56 years. The crowd applauded.

"Why do you applaud? You don't know what he'll do the 56 years have been like," he said.

He concluded by repeating what he asked is one of the wisest things he has ever heard.

"You should work as if you don't take the money. You should love as if you have never been hurt and you should dance like nobody's watching."



"This place was flatter than Phyllis Diller's chest," comedian Alan King said of Bakersfield during his presentation at the conference.

ROGER HORNBACK / THE RIP

Satirist pokes fun at publishing, politics

By IAN HAMILTON
Sports Editor

It's hard for a satirist to compete with news headlines, but Christopher Buckley tries.

Buckley, a political satirist, ran through a list of odd headlines and titles that led him into humorous stories from his life during his presentation at the conference.

He recalled how his daughter was confused about President Bill Clinton.

"My 8-year-old daughter came into my study and said, 'Dad, what is oval sex?' She said people were upset with the president for having oval sex in the Oval Office. So, thank you, Mr. President," he said sarcastically.

Some American book and movie titles, he joked, are translated literally into Chinese. Like "Leaving Las Vegas," he said, which was translated into "I'm Drunk and You're a Prostitute."

"The movie 'Field of Dreams' became 'Imaginary Dead Baseball Players Visit My Cornfield,'" he said. "The movie 'The Crying Game,' well, that was translated to 'Oh No, My Girlfriend Has a Penis.' But my favorite was the Cantonese translation for the movie 'Interview With a Vampire': 'So, You Are a Lawyer.' Management has asked me to point out that is obviously not a reference to Borton, Petrini & Conron."

As the crowd laughed, Buckley explained how his publisher struck down various titles he wanted for a compiled book of his magazine stories, like "Ruined Weekends," which referred to the fact that many magazine stories are due on Mondays, and "Homage to Tom Clancy," which he hoped would accidentally attract Clancy readers.

Be a/c, discussing titles, Buckley also ducked behind the podium to demonstrate how one can avoid an



ROGER HORNBACK / THE RIP

Satirist Christopher Buckley talks about, among other things, the finer points of how to avoid becoming the victim of an assassination.

assassination attempt. He said that as a young presidential speechwriter, he had to watch films about political assassinations after the attempt on then-President Ronald Reagan's life.

He used examples from the films to explain what he felt was a change in the ethics of assassination from John Wilkes Booth, who shot Abraham Lincoln to avenge the South, to John Hinckley, who shot Reagan to impress Judy Foster.

"And there, in a way, you have the trajectory of idealism of the American political assassin," he said.

On the same program as Cal Ripken Jr., Neil Armstrong and the hero of "Black Hawk Down," Buckley explained why he wasn't nervous.

"Obviously, someone has made a terrible mistake. I would be quaking in my boots if I wasn't so heavily sedated," he said, joking.

REAGAN: Event pays tribute to former first lady

Continued from Page 1
Reagans together at various times in their lives.

"Thank you, Nancy, for taking care of our president so magnificently and for everything you've done for America," Martin said.

Those in the audience said they enjoyed the tribute.

"I thought that was outstanding. It was nice to see Nancy Reagan," said Gary Bramon, 61, of Marin County. Bernice Rueger agreed.

"I thought it was fantastic. I know that she doesn't do this sort of thing. She doesn't come out for these and it had to be a special thing for her to do that when her husband, of course, is so ill," said Rueger, 78.

Bakersfield College President Dr. Sandra Serrano said the film history of the couple was moving.

"It was moving to see the history of their relationship and to know the role that she has played in his life, in his profession and in his care, now, in his later years," she said.

Kern County Superior Court

The future

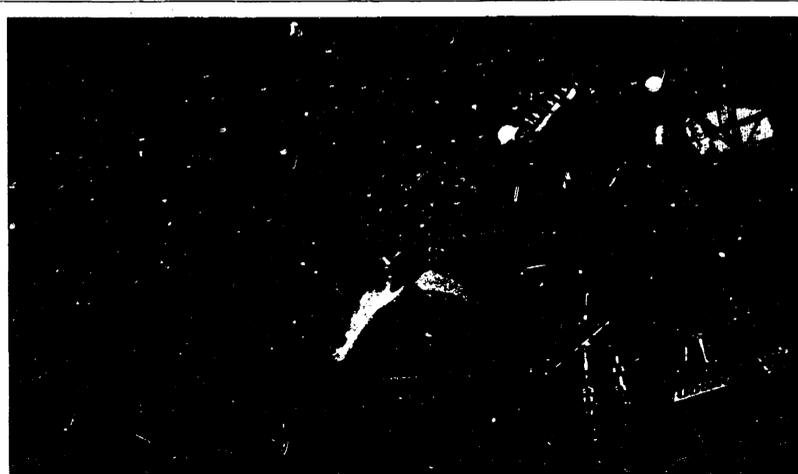
Next year may be the final year for the conference if attendance falls below about 8,000, according to George Martin, host of the event.

According to Cynthia Pollard, media coordinator for the conference, only 7,500 people bought tickets to this year's event on Oct. 9. If the 2004 event does not increase its numbers, the 20th annual Bakersfield Business Conference could be the last.

"If there's a warning issued, then we will call it a day and have those great memories that we've had for many years," she said.

Judge Robert Tafolla, Serrano's husband, said it showed how the Reagans worked together as a team.

"Really, it underscores the whole notion that when you look at successful people, in many instances, it's really the result of a husband and wife as a couple working together."



ROGER HORNBACK / THE RIP

Winter Dance Party member Ray Anthony belts out a song in the guise of '50s rocker Ritchie Valens.

The day the music returned

Resurrected rock 'n' roll heartthrobs provide evening entertainment

By JEFF EAGAN
Features Editor

The Bakersfield Business Conference presented attendees with an impressive blend of both serious speakers and lighthearted commentators. And after the speakers left in their stretch limos, the wine flowed freely under the soft glow as listeners watched the premier rock 'n' roll cover band, Winter Dance Party.

After a lengthy shower of patriotic fireworks, the resurrected souls of Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens and the Big Bopper appeared onstage, but not before a tribute to the song "American Pie," which chronicles the tragic loss of three of rock's brightest stars.

Instantly, Valens burst onto the stage screaming "La Bamba" at the top of his lungs. Valens, played by Ray Anthony, was dressed in a flagrantly silky red shirt with suffocating black pants laden with silver buckles. He urged the mostly silver-haired audience to stir themselves from their seats and participate in all of his classics.

The dance floor, barren at first, quickly

swelled with the young and old wishing to catch a little nostalgia. Though most of the music dated half the crowd, it couldn't keep them from swaying their hips and bobbing their heads to classic hits like "Summertime Blues."

After Anthony made a short farewell, the changing of the guard saw Jay P. Richardson, son of the real Big Bopper, saunter onstage. With flair and gusto, Richardson warned the audience to memories of a simpler time, where all the cars were cool, sexually transmitted diseases hadn't become a reality and soda cost a nickel.

He complained about the Minneapolis Star Tribune, which had reported that his 22-year-old son was drinking in the governor's residence.

"Every time the media slanders me and every time I have to go to them and get it corrected, I have to pay attorneys to do that," he said. "Why should money have to come out of my pocket to clear my name when the media lies about me?"

In June 2002, the Star Tribune published a story about Ventura's

capture the soul of the late Bopper. Or maybe he didn't want his performance to look too contrived, and thus tarnish the memory of his father.

But he addressed those couples approaching their 15-year anniversaries with the first slow song of the night, "For Eternity." He also sang some of the hits penned by his father, including "Chantilly Lace" and "Running Bear."

The crowd continued sweating to the oldies. Prepubescent girls, giggling at their parents who gingerly embraced childhood memories, imitated their dance moves the best they could.

Probably the most awaited act was Buddy Holly, as played by John Mueller. The physical similarity of Mueller to Holly was eerie, his onstage tenacity unparalleled by any imitator to come before. And personally, it was his songs I was looking forward to the most. "Peggy Sue," "Donna" and "That'll Be the Day" were beautiful compositions penned in an era where few performers wrote their own songs.

Mueller imitated Holly's humble demeanor perfectly, except for his anachronistic writing onstage and guitar banging. But the Winter Dance Party gave older conference patrons a chance to relive their malt shop fantasies, even if just for one night.

VENTURA: Ex-wrestler accuses media of making up news

Continued from Page 1

the money and power of the Democrats and Republicans, and that he accepted no special interest money during his campaign, while Schwarzenegger "took a ton of it."

Ventura is an independent, and when he explained why he is not a Republican or Democrat, he said, "Because I can go home at night and look at myself in the mirror."

"The two-party system is terrific," Ventura said sarcastically. "It gives us one more choice than communist Russia does."

But however much he dislikes the two-party system, it seems that Ventura believes the media is even worse.

In June 2002, the Star Tribune published a story about Ventura's

own thing happening to our political system is the media," he said. "The media today is not out to report the news to you — they are out to create the news. You may think that is not really a big thing, but I think it is exceptionally dangerous."

He complained about the Minneapolis Star Tribune, which had reported that his 22-year-old son was drinking in the governor's residence.

"Every time the media slanders me and every time I have to go to them and get it corrected, I have to pay attorneys to do that," he said. "Why should money have to come out of my pocket to clear my name when the media lies about me?"

In June 2002, the Star Tribune published a story about Ventura's

son, Tyrel, alleging that he threw numerous parties in the governor's mansion. The story said that supplies of state-bought liquor disappeared and furniture was damaged. The day after publication, Ventura announced his decision not to seek re-election.

Ventura said he now boycotts the Minnesota media and he did not run for governor again because of personal reasons.

"Don't be involved with the press where you live, they will make your life miserable. It's best to avoid them," he said. "Don't talk to them, they'll mess it up anyway."

Even though he criticized the media, Ventura reminded everyone that his television show, "Jesse Ventura's America," airs at 4 p.m. Saturday on

MSNBC.

"I feel the message that I'm bringing out about people involved in government, about these two parties, about the media, should be heard across the country, not just Minnesota," Ventura said.

Near the end of his presentation, Ventura talked about taxes and how nearly everything in life is taxed in one way or another.

"The only thing I've come up with (that hasn't been taxed) is my dreams. I have yet to figure out how they've intervened in that," Ventura said.

Someone yelled out that beds are taxed and he responded, "Nice point, throw that one out the window, I guess."

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE

TREK Bicycle for sale
700 Hybrid Series
\$325 OBO
873-2932

Local Classifieds
1-800-4-A-WORD
1-800-4-WORD
1-800-4-WORD
Call 395-4326 or email
jpollard@bakersfieldrenegade.com

Local Classifieds
1-800-4-A-WORD
1-800-4-WORD
1-800-4-WORD
Call 395-4326 or email
jpollard@bakersfieldrenegade.com

ATTENTION STUDENTS

Students will not be notified of registration appointments by mail. Students can check their spring 2004 registration appointments in the Registration Status section of the Registration Menu on BanWeb.

BC's 90th Anniversary 2003 Homecoming Event Schedule

The following events will be held next week in celebration of homecoming.

- Monday 11 a.m.-1 p.m. * DJ Kick-off Rally (meet your King and Queen candidates) * Water Balloon Toss
- Tuesday 10 a.m.-1 p.m. * Bicycle Race * Live Band * Potluck Eating Contest * Scavenger Hunt
- Wednesday 10 a.m.-1 p.m. * Jello & Egg Races * Basketball Shootout * '90 Years * Trivia * Piff Suit * Potluck Races
- Thursday 10 a.m.-2 p.m. * Campus Contest * Pep Rally * Live Band * Pie-Fasting Contest * Vote for King and Queen
- Friday 10 a.m.-11 a.m. Homecoming King and Queen Interviews

Bakersfield College Renegades vs. Santa Barbara Vaqueros

Saturday, October 25, 7 p.m. Memorial Stadium

Tickets: \$6, \$9, \$12 (children 1/2 price)
Available at the BC Ticket Office or at the gate on game day.
For ticket information please call 395-4326.
Get two FREE tickets with the purchase of ASB Sticker (\$15).
Good for all sporting events and other local discounts.

FUTURE...

The path you choose today can lead to tomorrow's success.

If you're ready to apply your knowledge and skills in the post-graduation job market, then toss your hat in with State Fund.

State Fund, the leading workers' compensation insurance carrier in California, is interested in graduates seeking opportunity and stability. We offer a wide range of positions throughout California, plus an environment that will foster your continued growth.

At State Fund you'll find exceptional benefits, professional training to expand your horizons, and many advancement possibilities.

Learn how you can join us by visiting www.scif.com or by contacting Human Resources at 415-565-1722. Then launch your career with State Fund and rise to new heights.

Career opportunities may be available in:

- Marketing
- Communications
- Underwriting
- Claims
- Loss Control
- Business Services
- Customer Service
- Legal
- Information Technology
- Finance and Accounting
- Human Resources
- Administration

STATE FUND
California's Best

Check With Us!

- Free checking - Easy Access Checking (Up to first 10 checks per month)
- VISA® Check Card (Use your VISA® Check Card in place of checks.)

KERN SCHOOLS
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
Together, we have something special.

Use our ATM in the BC Bookstore!
Visit us on the internet at www.kbfcu.org

833-7900

NCLA

Foreign policy takes center stage during event

By DANIELLA WILLIAMS
Assistant Opinion Editor

International affairs will take center stage in the coming presidential election, predicts Andrea Mitchell, chief foreign affairs correspondent for NBC News.

"For years and years, we've had campaigns where no one ever asked a presidential candidate anything about the rest of the world. That has changed," she said.

Mitchell encouraged the audience at the Bakersfield Business Conference to question the motives and actions of the White House in the wake of Sept. 11.

"As we later learned, it was not only the beginning of our war on ter-

ror, but the beginning of a retaliatory strike and a war in Afghanistan. And the Pentagon very much wanted it to be the beginning of a war in Iraq," she said.

Mitchell moderated a panel on foreign policy which included Mary Robinson, a former president of Ireland and U.N. commissioner for human rights, as well as former U.S. Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell, who served as chairman of the peace negotiations in Northern Ireland. The panel discussed the rebuilding of Iraq, conflict in the Middle East and the United States' role in the international arena.

When asked about Bush's choice to declare war against Iraq, Robinson responded with the fact that the

United Nations' charter recognizes the right of every nation to that kind of self-defense, but that, "the problem, I think, is that for many, many people, in many countries in the world, there was not the conviction that it was necessary to act militarily against Iraq at the time that the war was declared," she said. She also added that so far, weapons of mass destruction have yet to be found, and that has "aggravated an anti-American sentiment, particularly in that region. That's very worrying for stability and peace, and indeed the rebuilding of Iraq."

Mitchell asked why the United States is a terrorist target when it helps other countries financially and militarily.

Sen. Mitchell said that being the dominant military, economic and political power comes with both positive and negative aspects.

"On the other hand, there are disadvantages that come with a dominant position, and one of them is that there is a natural resentment, in some cases envy, and others hostility, toward whoever is the dominant power," he said.

Robinson explained that Iraqis need to be involved in creating their government.

"I think it is really very important to have a sense, particularly in the region, of legitimacy," she said. If a strong sense of legitimacy is established, "I think it's possible to make progress in Iraq."

Sen. Mitchell related his experience in Ireland to the situation in Iraq.

"I must say that it took two years, two long years of listening. But, ultimately, everyone got a chance to get their view across," he said. He admits that the situation in Ireland is still not perfect, but believes it has improved.

"What began as an atmosphere of complete hostility gradually became one of discussion. Not friendship, not trust, not respect — they still don't like each other — but still a real dialogue. I think the same thing can happen in the Middle East."

Both panelists agreed that women would play a central role in bringing peace to Iraq. Robinson finds that Muslim women's choices are limited.

"They are being squeezed between a choice of Islamic fundamentalism or a kind of McDonald's Western culture. They don't want either of those." The Iraqi women are finding their own balance between religion, education and family, she said.

Sen. Mitchell noted that women played a large role in bringing peace to Ireland.

"I believe that one reason why we were able to get a peace agreement in Northern Ireland after 30 years of war ... is that the public became exhausted with the war and women became an active political force in Northern Ireland for the first time," he said.

Life after baseball

Diamond lessons drive Ripken's business success

By VICTOR GARCIA
Managing Editor



Cal Ripken Jr. discusses team spirit in both business and sports.

Cal Ripken Jr. hit a home run with Bakersfield Business Conference attendees Saturday.

Ripken asked the audience to pretend that he had just hit a home run and gone into the dugout. He wanted the audience to ask him for a curtain call. After going backstage, he ran out arms outstretched above him just like he did after he broke Hall of Famer Lou Gehrig's record for consecutive games played.

On cue, the audience gave Ripken a standing ovation while waving their American flags. "Thank you very much. It still gives me the same kind of goosebumps, I tell ya," he said.

Ripken, 43, spent 21 years in the major leagues, all with the Baltimore Orioles, in which he played 2,632 straight games from May 30, 1982, to Sept. 19, 1998, breaking Gehrig's record.

Since retiring from baseball, he has been

concentrating on operating his businesses.

"I guess you can look at me and call me a rookie in the business world," Ripken said.

He tries to apply what he learned in his 21 years of playing baseball to the business world. Leadership is one quality that Ripken said can be applied.

"I am interested in the kind of leadership that sets the map, that sets the direction," he said. "Without good direction, you don't have anything."

Teamwork is another important topic in business. After all, we all can't do it by ourselves. We all are part of some sort of team in business.

According to Ripken, there are two parts of a team, the individual and the team.

"The hard part is how do you take all those individual talents and pull them together and act as a team," he said.

His answer is everyone needs to connect by interacting with each other. It's important in all team situations to go the extra mile and connect one to one.

Quotable Moments

"It's great to be here with you in this puppet. I have absolutely no idea how I managed to find myself on a program with the hero of 'Black Hawk Down,' Cal Ripken and Neil Armstrong. Obviously, someone has made a terrible mistake."

— Christopher Buckley, on being at the conference

"Every time we talk about eliminating the death tax, we hear, 'Well, it's going to help Bill Gates.' Friends, let me put your minds at ease. If we eliminate the death tax, and Bill Gates dies, it's not's going to help Bill Gates, because he's dead."

— J.C. Watts, on the need to end the death tax

"I guess you can look at me and call me a rookie in the business world."

— Cal Ripken Jr., on entering into a business career

Sizing up the dating game

Author Tom Wolfe comments on decline of romance among collegiate Americans

By JEFF EAGAN
Features Editor

Under the shade of the gigantic main tent, Tom Wolfe humbly graced the stage. His demeanor seemed reserved for a best-selling author of two astounding books, "The Bonfire of the Vanities" and "A Man in Full." Wolfe subtly discussed his latest book, "Hooking Up." However, he wasn't reticent to provide some insights he gained during his research.

The bold mission of the book was to analyze contemporary college life in America by speaking to college students around the United States.

"I started in California at Stanford and I worked my way across the country. And university after university, I kept running into something known as the seven-minute seduction."

In relating the story, he found that the polite social courting of his generation has now disappeared. Instead, he sees modern dating customs as collective predation.

"Things are a little different now at the college and even the high school level. Girls and boys go out in separate groups, packs, but at least the girls don't have to sit at the telephone every night," Wolfe said.

It was strange to see a 72-year-old man in a genteel white suit relating the voracious carnal urges college students have on the dance floor.

But Wolfe delivered these remarks with what little refinement one can garner when the subject is grinding.

"There was a dance about five years ago called the lambada. But today, it has a more realistic title, grinding, where the couple lock pelvic saddles, and well, grind," Wolfe explained.

He found that college students love to talk about their lives. Pioneering his "new journalism," Wolfe entrenched himself within the guarded indicators of the female sex life by perusing their diaries.

In them, he found that the era of the seven-minute seduction has college women ranking conquests, random hookups and misguided disappointments conveniently indexed for later reflection.

He sees this common trend as "part of



Author Tom Wolfe discusses the insight he gained on the college dating scene in writing his latest book.

something much bigger, which I think of as the fifth American freedom." As he spoke of the other four pillars of democracy, he expounded that the "age of the fifth freedom as illustrated by the seven-minute seduction, is the era of "freedom from religion."

He sees "freedom from religion" as something that is detrimental to traditional religious and social customs that stress stable monogamous relationships.

But Wolfe says the country has entered a new generation where traditional rules are flouted by public officials from President Clinton to New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg. In this new era, home base isn't going all the way anymore.

"Today, the bases are lined up a little bit differently, and today's home plate is being introduced," Wolfe said.

Wolfe portrayed the correlation between money and sex as seducers. Giving examples



Neil Armstrong talks about aviation and spaceflight.

from the recent crop of financial infidelities by corporations including Enron, WorldCom and Delphia, Wolfe sees "greed as a motivating factor in all these scandals."

Wolfe, however cynical about the cultural trends he chronicles, maintains a positive outlook on the future.

"This country is in such a marvelous condition. We are capable of doing so much good. But we still have to answer the question: Good for what? In the meantime, I'll see you at church."

Armstrong traces path to moon landing

By IAN HAMILTON
Sports Editor

The first man to walk on the moon, Neil Armstrong, celebrated the 100th year of flight during his afternoon speech at the Bakersfield Business Conference.

Armstrong explained the history of flight from the Wright Brothers at Camp Kitty Hawk to supersonic planes and, ultimately, to the moon. While describing the space race, Armstrong offered interesting tidbits about spaceflight.

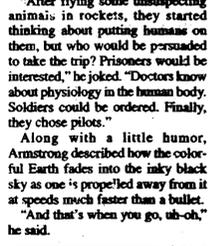
"Once in orbit, if you increase your speed by just over 41 percent, you will never return to Earth," he said. "That is kind of a nice thing to remember if you are ever in a spacecraft."

Armstrong told the audience a little bit about how NASA decided on pilots for spaceflight.

"After flying some unsuspecting animals in rockets, they started thinking about putting humans on them, but who would be persuaded to take the trip? Prisoners would be interested," he joked. "Doctors know about physiology in the human body. Soldiers could be ordered. Finally, they chose pilots."

Along with a little humor, Armstrong described how the colorful Earth faded into the inky black sky as one is propelled away from it at speeds much faster than a bullet.

"And that's when you go, uh-oh," he said.



Neil Armstrong talks about aviation and spaceflight.

Watts plugs faith-based approaches

By JENNIFER MILLS
Opinion Editor

Former Republican congressman and football great J.C. Watts received a warm welcome from host George Martin and then a standing ovation after his speech at the Bakersfield Business Conference.

"He made a wonderful run on a different field than a football field — that's the political field — and he made a great difference," said Martin, who had been waiting to hear the speaker. "He was the author of President Bush's faith-based initiative, and his name is J.C. Watts."

Watts, who held the fourth highest position in the House of Representatives, represented Oklahoma from 1994 to 2002.

Among many other things, Watts

used his time in Congress trying to improve the redevelopment of communities, strengthen education and restore American values.

Watts said he tried to advance new ways of thinking to deal with old problems.

"I think insanity is doing the same old thing the same old way but expecting different results," said Watts. "And so I was always trying to look at the models that we were using in delivering community services and health care, Social Security, trying to create jobs ... (or) education, and saying, 'You know, why can't we do that differently?'"

Watts said that the federal government has created all the wrong models in 40 years, especially in the area of welfare.

"(There are) only two ways that

you can get ahead in America, either you save or you invest. We said to poor people, 'If you save money, we'll take away your benefits,'" said Watts, who encountered opposition in changing the welfare reform bill in 1995.

"You will create poverty if you allow the reward for the families that break up to be greater than the reward for the families that stay together."

The reform bill gave people the means to climb the ladder of economic opportunity and get off welfare, he said.

"The reason you believe that there's not compassion in what we're doing is because you define compassion by how many people you can have on food stamps and in public housing," Watts told one man who



Former U.S. Rep. J.C. Watts reiterates the importance of faith-based groups.

objected to Watts' welfare proposal, "(but) I define compassion by how few people are on food stamps and public housing."

As a longtime supporter of Bush's faith-based initiative, a proposal that gave faith-based organizations a chance at government partnership, Watts believes that one way of making changes in government models is by not discriminating against faith-

based organizations, but instead, working with them in restoring pride in neighborhoods that others had written off.

"Long before the (2000 presidential) election, I had talked about a new kind of conservatism — one that offered a hand-up, not just a hand-out," Watts wrote in a foreword for a recently published book, "A Revolution of Compassion."

SKYDIVE TAFT

STUDENT DISCOUNT
VIDEO ... \$70
TANDEM ... \$140
ACCELERATED FREEFALL ... \$240

(661) 765-JUMP www.skydivetaft.com

People come to me for my *good rates...*
they stay for my *good neighbor service*

See me:
Mike Brazzell, CLU FLUM
Lic # 0C63569
3721 Columbia Avenue
Bakersfield, CA
861-872-7770

Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.
statefarm.com

State Farm Insurance Companies • Home Office: Bloomington, Illinois

AUTO • LIFE • HOME • HEALTH

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

- 24 Hour Drive-Thru Prescriptions
- One Hour Photo Service
- Friendly sales staff to help you with all your needs

Cheap Date Nights
Fridays and Saturdays
at **Cafe Mudd**

5600 Auburn, Ste. P • 873-2900

Have a great time painting pottery with a date or a group of friends. 1/2 off the \$7 paint fee when you begin painting between 6 p.m.-7:45 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. Large selection of paintable items for \$20 or less. Great gift items! College ID required.

Supreme Bean

- Coffee
- Espresso
- Caesar's Deli Express
- Open 7 a.m. daily

3601 Mt. Vernon Ave.
Across from the BC football field

Walgreens
The Pharmacy America Trusts

WALGREENS DRUG STORE
2828 Mt. Vernon Ave., Bakersfield, CA 93308
24-Hour Prescriptions: 871-3855 Store information: 871-3005
Or call 1 800 Walgreens for the Walgreens Pharmacy nearest you.
(1-800-925-4733)

FORMER BC BAND MEMBERS SOUGHT

Join the fun and excitement at the Bakersfield College Homecoming football game on Sat., Oct. 25. The pep band will perform during the game that begins at 7 p.m. A rehearsal will be held at 2 p.m. on game day. For more information please call (661) 395-4546.

The BC Chamber Orchestra presents its season debut concert

Autumn Strings
Tuesday, October 19
First Christian Church
1500 "S" Street

Doors open at 3:30 p.m.
Program begins at 4 p.m.
Tickets: \$6 General
\$3 - Students & Seniors
Free-Children 12 and under
Call 395-4326 for ticket info.

DON'T BE LEFT IN THE DARK WHEN YOU PAY FOR COLLEGE.

There are 250,000 ways to pay for college with our Scholarship Channel.

- Search over 250,000 scholarships in our free database
- Receive relevant scholarship updates through email
- Increase your success rate through articles and advice

www.the.rip.com/scholarships

BAKERSFIELD BUSINESS CONFERENCE



Right: A brilliant display of fireworks lights up the sky over the bald eagle statue on the conference grounds.

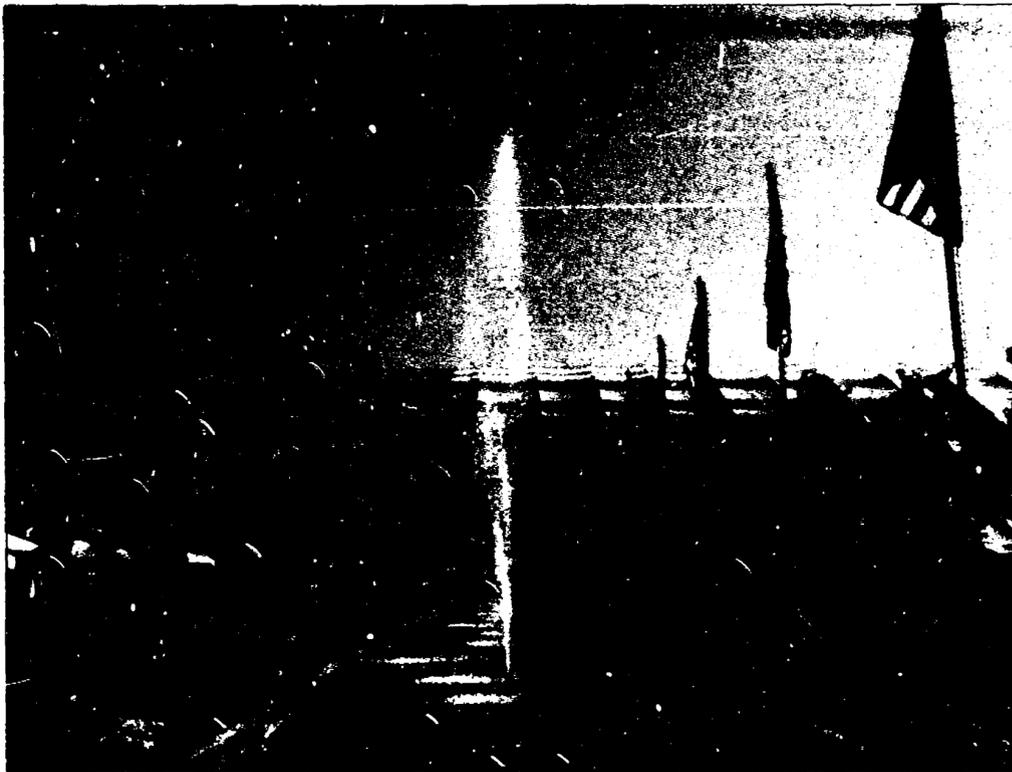
Below: Agape Chen, 13, a Bakersfield native, performs a piece on the piano. She recently won second place on NBC's "America's Most Talented Kid."

Patriotic Pleasures



Right: Santa Maria residents Debbie and Tom Goeres applaud one of the speakers.

Far right: American flags frame the fountain pool in front of the main tent.



Above: Attendees burst into a fit of flag-waving at the announcement of former first lady Nancy Reagan as the surprise guest.



Left: Master Sgt. Matt Eversmann signs a copy of the book "Black Hawk Down" for Jeannine Campos, right, as conference worker Susan Stone looks on.

Photos by Roger Hornback / The Rip



THE RENEGADE RIP

www.therip.com

Vol. 74 • No. 15

Bakersfield College

October 31, 2003

Rip struggles with staff cuts

Administrators blame transfer of program's classified employees on college's budget crunch.

Editor's note: This is the first in a series on the impact of the budget cuts on Bakersfield College.

By IAN HAMILTON
Sports Editor

For 15 years, when journalism students or prospective advertising clients found their way into *The Renegade Rip* office in Campus Center in the morning, they were greeted with a smile and helped by Robin Johnson. Nowadays, they are more likely to find a

EDITORIAL:
Lack of staff results in locked doors. Page 4

Program at Bakersfield College are trying to adjust to the transfer of Johnson, a longtime department assistant. Due to budget cuts and a campuswide reorganization of staff, Johnson is now part of a secretarial cluster of classified workers, or "hub." These hubs consist of staff streamlined into groups to accomplish the duties of multiple departments.

Dean of Student Learning Nan Gomez-Heitzeberg, who oversees the Fine Arts hub where Johnson works, said the move is only a small part of what is being experienced around campus.

"We now have buildings where we don't have support staff, and at one time we did," Gomez-Heitzeberg said. "While we would love to be able to say, 'Let's maintain everything as we have always been able to maintain it,' this budget reality and the fact that we have fewer bodies to take care of everybody, probably everybody is going to be touched in one way or another."

Dr. Sandra Serrano, BC president, said last year when the school was attempting to compensate for a \$5.4 million budget cut, staff reorganization and service hubs were among the things that needed to be implemented. She said that a number of labs are affected by these cuts be-

cause they are dependent on student workers or teaching assistants.

"We've had a 33 percent reduction to our student workers in our budget," Serrano said.

She made it clear that the reduction of service is not isolated just to *The Rip*.

"We don't have the resources to hire the same level of support in order to maintain the same number of hours," she said. "Our library isn't open the same number of hours. Our cafeteria is not open, the same number of hours and we have a tremendous change in the service that is being provided by our cafeteria."

Kathy Freeman, adviser to *The Rip*, said that even though Johnson has been transferred, the newspaper will be able to retain some of her services, including the creation of ads.

But Freeman said that Johnson's absence from the Campus Center office is having a profound effect on *Rip* students. Due to possible liability, she said, students are not to be left unattended in a classroom. Since Johnson's transfer, 17 hours have been eliminated from lab time because the office cannot be staffed.

"Students now have greatly reduced access to the instructional lab computers that they need to do the newspaper," she said. "Instead of planning coverage according to an event's news value, students are basing decisions on how much time they have to produce a newspaper. Some stories may not get into print or may not have the coverage they deserve because students have limited access to the office."

In addition to Johnson's loss, the Journalism Program also is trying to compensate for the elimination of its teaching assistant position. Rod Thornburg, a professional photographer, will no longer have a position with *The Rip* instructing photographers when he returns from military duty. He has worked in the program since 1983.

"Rod Thornburg is on military leave, and after serving his country he will come back to BC and find himself transferred to another area other than journalism," Freeman said. "I can't imagine how he will feel about that. His love is photography."

See RUDGET, Page 3



MELVA HODGE / THE RIP

Osvaldo Chavez asks Christopher Beil for his vote during the Homecoming costume competition.

Rock the Vote

Candidates try costumes, contests to win Homecoming titles

By JULIANNA CRISALLI
Rip staff writer

It takes a week of eating pies, dressing in costumes, answering trivia questions and shooting basketball to receive the titles of Homecoming king and queen.

When the contests came to an end, Joseph Ruiz and Erica Grall of the Native American Cultural Awareness Club were crowned the

2003 Homecoming king and queen during Saturday's football game.

"Maintaining a good attitude is the best thing you can do in life," said Ruiz after his victory. "We ate 11 hot dogs and 12 chocolate pudding pies, tripped on a jump rope and put up with a lot of crap for this."

During Homecoming week, contestants competed in several events to gain points toward the win. A combination of competition points,

student votes and points from interviews created the candidates' final score.

"As far as who designates who is king and queen, that was determined through the many competitions that we had throughout the week," said Bethany Johnson, a member of the Homecoming committee. "It was estimated on a points system and also along with the voting for king and queen that we had on Wednesday and Thursday."

See CONTESTS, Page 5



DENNIS MAHAN / THE RIP

Margaret Perry, left, and Art Dominguez look for support from vehicles passing by Vons on Stine Road.

'All we want is to keep our benefits'

Supermarket strike centers on rising cost of health care and proposal to create two levels of pay for workers.

By JULIANNA CRISALLI
Rip staff writer

The virtually empty parking lot of the Vons supermarket at Stockdale and California and the "honk to support" picket signs spoke for themselves.

The union asked employees of Vons to go on strike Oct. 11 because of proposed cutbacks in health care benefits. A proposed new contract eliminated some health care benefits, and according to a Stockdale's Vons manager, Anna Magana, employees will be expected to pay from 20 percent to 50 percent of their benefits. According to an Oct. 27 article in

The Sacramento Bee, long-term employees were receiving generous health and pension plans. But to compete with superstores like Wal-Mart, grocery chains want to cut health care costs and create two levels of pay.

About 70,000 employees said they are willing to pay \$5 and \$15 premiums. The reason for their strike is the possible elimination of health benefits, according to The Bee.

"All we want is to keep our benefits," said Magana. "We want to keep exactly what we have right now. We're not asking for anymore. We're not asking for more pay, we're not asking to get more than we have. We are just asking to keep what we already had."

Vons is not the only supermarket affected by the proposed cut in benefits. Ralphs and Albertson's employees were locked out. They will

remain locked out until Vons resolves the issue and union employees return to work.

Despite repeated attempts, *The Rip* was unable to contact union representatives or management officials.

"They are not negotiating right now," Magana said. "They haven't brought anything new to the table. It could last a couple of weeks, but hopefully not much longer than that. I don't think people can afford to go on much longer than that. We are just asking people to shop at other stores for the time being because as soon as the corporations start to lose money, you know, they'll want us back in there."

Employees of Vons and other affected supermarkets picket outside their stores, encouraging incoming customers to shop elsewhere.

Currently working in the stores are temporary employees who crossed

the picket line. According to Vons employee Jimmy Chavez, the short-term help has no experience. They are simply hired off the streets and are making more than the permanent employees were making.

"They hire people right off the street," said Chavez. "They have like no experience, no hours of training, where some of us here have like 25 years of experience. Even managers are out here picketing. Scabs get about 17 to 19 dollars an hour. I get \$9.78."

Striking employees from all three supermarkets will receive \$200 per week from union funds, a cut in pay that is hard to accept, according to Vons employee Linda Valenti. She has worked there for 25 years. She explained they have not experienced a strike since the year she was hired. She, like many others, makes an average of \$500 in a normal week.

Got mail? Not for BC registration

By SETI MEDVED
Rip staff writer

Don't bother waiting for your mailbox for a registration notice. Registration appointments for the spring 2004 term will not be mailed out, according to Enrollment

Services Director Sue Vaughn.

Students can instead get their appointment times online.

Vaughn said the budget crunch was the main reason for the change.

"We were spending over

\$10,000 a year mailing those letters," she said, adding that it also will help save trees.

Students can find their appointments by going to the Kern Community College District Web site. From there, they must go through several screens before the registration time appears.

Vaughn said students can get their appointment times directly from Admissions and Records if they are frustrated by the online process. "They can come in or call us (at 395-4301) and we'll tell them what it is," she said.

Rebel with a cause

Segway will 'create chaos,' endangerer's says

By COUMBA TAMBOURA
Campus Editor

His silhouette strolls down the campus sidewalks, perched on top of a modern-looking Roman chariot. This warrior in the bicycle helmet is Dr. Clark Parsons, instructional technology specialist at Bakersfield College, and owner of a contemporary marvel called the Segway Human Transporter.

Intrigued by the technology of the device, Parsons said he saw the Segway as a means to not only protect the environment, but also save money on energy and car repair.

"I'll prevent pollution, it will cost me 25 cents a week for electricity to keep it charged, and I will also prevent wear and tear on my car," he said.

However, the main reason he bought the Segway was to avoid the inconvenience of the hot summer.

Living about a mile and a half away from the college, the usual walks he takes leave him sweaty once he arrives at work.

"I thought it was a great way to

"I am not going to try to be a bad boy or anything, but safety is not an issue."

— Dr. Clark Parsons

get back and forth to work in the summer when it's too hot to walk."

People often wave at him when he passes by, or stop to chat and ask questions. Others simply follow him with astounded eyes as he disappears from their sight.

He also has been asked for rides. "There are some people that don't like it, and some others jump on it," he said.

Campus security is probably among those who will not jump on the opportunity of testing Parsons' Segway.

"The problem is they consider it a motorized vehicle, because it has a battery and it has motors in it. Motorized vehicles are not allowed on the internal sidewalks unless they are campus vehicles," Parsons said.

Mark Graf, campus security chief, confirmed the policy.

"An individual bicycle, moped, skateboard and Segway are not al-

lowed to ride on campus," Graf said. For him, allowing a Segway or any other kind of motorized vehicle would not be safe for students.

"I have nothing against the Segway at all," he said, "but there is just too many people walking around on campus, and there is an expectation from students that walking on the sidewalk they don't have to worry about any vehicle coming through their way."

Although he is allowed to ride the Segway on the streets of Bakersfield, Parsons could not get a permit for it on campus when he asked for one.

For him, it is a "much more sophisticated" machine that people don't know a lot about.

"I think it is easier for them to just say no to everybody because then they will have to take everything as a special case."

Graf said that he understands Parsons' point of view, and even wishes that they had found a common ground.

"Since the interior of the college is designed for pedestrian traffic, it will not only be unsafe, but also create chaos if a person is allowed to go against the policy," Graf said.

But Parsons explained that two faculty members at MiraCosta College north of San Diego own a



Dr. Clark Parsons rides his Segway through the Bakersfield College campus.

ROGER HORNBACK / THE RIP

Segway and ride on campus without encountering trouble. According to Parsons, they never asked for permission, but just did it.

"I am not going to try to be a bad boy or anything," said Parsons as he smiled. "But safety is not an issue."

"It is not a safety issue because you can drive more carefully with that than you can with any other ve-

hicles on campus. I believe even more so than a wheelchair."

Even if the machine has been recalled for a safety-related software upgrade, Parsons insists that it is safe even without it.

He was among 31 winners of an essay contest that gave him a free trip back to the Segway factory in New Hampshire, where he was "factory-trained" to safely ride them.

"We had an obstacle course and safety lessons. I always wear a helmet when I ride it and we were told how to give demonstration rides," he said.

Even though he can't use his Segway inside the campus, Parsons is still thrilled with it.

"For short folk like me, it's neat."

Nuclear Rabbit unleashes new songs with verve and intensity

By JEFF EAGAN
Features Editor

Local act Crimson Jihad played first in a show that strangely landed the headlines Nuclear Rabbit somewhere in the middle. Several other out of town bands played including Hostile, Odzar and D.C. area group Dog Fashion Disco. The Crimson Jihad, now a reduced trio, off from temporary hiatus, remain as technically adept and structurally sound as they always have.

I have to say I had some idealistic preconceptions before going to see them live for the first time. I hoped to myself and for Nuclear Rabbit's sake that the dank confines of Jerry's Pizzas' basement sullen and beer-permeated as it was wouldn't inhibit their performance. I was supremely glad that they were booked, but bassist Jean Baudin's

custom nine-string bass was a cocksure artifact this temple could not hold.

I think that from the first song "What Would He-Man Do?" off their new album "Mutopia" that lead singer Greg Parrish began to feel the claustrophobia. He milled through the crowd with his cordless mike. The resounding wall of sound fed every hypergesticulation of Parrish's slender frame, escalating at every scream, grunt and howl.

It seemed the crowd inside was split between those who knew every Nuclear Rabbit song, those brought by the previously mentioned and maybe even a couple who didn't know who the hell they were.

This is Nuclear Rabbit's first tour since their breakup nearly two years ago. Their appearances are on the West Coast for now, many of which are in the Pacific Northwest.

California. Though their sound has changed throughout their various mutations, it has maintained a singular cohesion that is uniquely Nuclear Rabbit. Few of the new songs echo the sound from the 28 sweet psychotic Saturday morning cartoon concoctions of their first release, "Vicuna."

The songs on their new album seemed to be composed with more stress on vocal structure within their songs, and less of the stripped-down funk-metal spasticity of "Intestinal Fortitude" and "Vicuna."

"Shiny Button" and "Champion of the World" have parts that may sound like "Vicuna," but stand on their own.

They should have played more of their old songs. A meager, potent dose of "My Girl's Got Guts" and "Spork" were eagerly anticipated and earnestly received. They made me want to dance. Baudin had his

intimidating nine-string bass with the prowess and dexterity few musicians today possess, and the many who wish they had the vision to pursue. Even after the show Baudin mused about super-sizing his bass to a 17-string model. Now is deciding to go with eight more strings an arbitrary number or is there any sense to this madness?

And it was so apparent. Guitarist Pat Garner maintained a stoic position, occasionally issuing fits of feverishly distorted sonic rage and flashing demented glances, while Sigaty frantically beat his drums into submission with a guilty grin on his face. Parrish and Baudin brandished their roles with brazen ambition, knowing their work must travel far to reach anxious, yet distant ears. Together they comprise a panoply of talent stupefyingly bombastic, undeniably disturbed.



JEFF EAGAN / THE RIP

Greg Parrish of Nuclear Rabbit stares menacingly into the audience during his performance at Jerry's Pizza.

BC security aids in capture of burglary suspects

By COUMBA TAMBOURA
Campus Editor

A series of vehicle burglaries at Bakersfield College has ended with the arrest of two 19-year-olds and a juvenile.

Jose Luis Cisneros of Arvin were arrested Sept. 17 by the Bakersfield Police Department.

A 16-year-old also was arrested in the investigation. His case is being handled in Juvenile Court.

On Sept. 17, campus security, already on alert about recent vehicle burglaries,

had set up a surveillance team that saw the suspects entering the southeast parking lot around 10 a.m. in their pickup truck.

According to Superior Court documents, they stole a stereo from a student's vehicle and came back later in an attempt to break into more vehicles.

Campus security notified the BPD, which made the arrest in the 2400 block of Mount Vernon Avenue around 1:25 p.m.

Police seized several items including stolen radios, TVs, video recorders, vehicle parts and tools that were found in

the suspects' vehicle at the time of their arrest.

Both suspects were charged with vehicle burglary and receiving known stolen property. In addition, Cisneros was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia for half a gram of amphetamine/methamphetamine seized from his vehicle on Sept. 18.

At the pre-preliminary hearing on Oct. 2, Cisneros and Casas were both sentenced to serve almost a year in jail and placed on three years probation. They also have to pay a total of \$185 in restitution fines and legal costs.

Cisneros admitted breaking into two student vehicles at BC and stealing items from them on Sept. 11 and 15. However, police believed the trio was involved in more burglaries, said police Detective Mary DeGare.

The suspects told officers that they used a wrench to smash car windows in previous break-ins. In this case, they got in through a window that was rolled down slightly.

BC was experiencing about two burglaries per week. Since the arrest, they are down to zero, said security Chief Mark Graf.



ALEX TAMAYO / THE RIP

Clay Creation

Margarita Gasca, a student, works on her pottery during a ceramics class.

BUDGET: Classified cuts result in fewer production hours for newspaper staff

Continued from Page 1

Johnson now works with two other staffers in Fine Arts. She said the position is like learning a new job, which includes clerical work for Fine Arts and Family and Consumer Education, as well as supporting journalism.

"It is difficult being away (from The

Rip) because you're so far removed from it that it's like you're not even a part of it," she said. "I worked there for 15 years and I can honestly say I was never bored because the job was so varied. I enjoyed working with the students, I miss that the most. But things change and you have to change with them."

Johnson no longer works directly with students: one student, Jarrod Graham, Rip copy editor and former editor in chief, said the Journalism Program has helped him get a part-time job on the copy desk at The Bakersfield Californian. He believes Johnson's transfer hurts the staff.

"Robin has been the workhorse of the

program for so many years. Losing her really impacts our ability to make deadline."

The Rip already has reduced the number of publications per semester from 10 to seven to deal with the budget cuts.

"We've suffered massive setbacks. Hopefully, we'll be able to get through this," said Managing Editor Victor Garcia.

Are You Planning to Graduate in December?

November 3 is the graduation filing deadline for BC students planning to graduate in December 2003. Graduation Candidacy Forms can be picked up at Window 6 in the Admissions and Records Building.

Special SHOT Free 8x10

1 person - \$ 9.99 (50 Wallet)

Grand Opening

(661) 832-3379

Target Center (Mtg & Wble) 1410 Wble Rd. #102

OPEN: Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Sun.-11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Was it the coffee? Or was it just me?

Then again, maybe it was both...

You remember those farm worker people? You know, that Cesar Chavez guy. That's right. The UFW. I was up late after getting back from work and the library one night and decided to brew a pot of coffee. That's when I noticed the bag had a line about each bean being picked by some guy down in South America.

Anyway, I got to thinking about our farm workers right here in California. Do they still need help? I mean, after all, even though they tend and pick the crops that keep us fed, my econ prof says they're the lowest paid workers around.

So, I boozed up my roommate's PC and went online to find out more. It was my first visit to the UFW Store. Not only do they have links to the latest UFW news and issues, they've got an incredible selection of hats, t-shirts, buttons, posters, books, rare UFW collectibles and so much more - I almost forgot to drink my coffee.

It's a nice you've gotta see and if you're into supporting a great cause, all the proceeds from every sale go straight to the United Farm Workers' organizing efforts. Plus, everything is satisfaction guaranteed!

Check it out!

WWW.UFWSTORE.COM

ATTENTION STUDENTS

Students will not be notified of registration appointments by mail. Students can check their spring 2004 registration appointments in the **Registration Status** section of the **Registration Menu on BanWeb.**

Cheap Date Nights

Fridays and Saturdays

at **Café Mudd**

5600 Auburn, Ste. P • 873-2900

Have a great time painting pottery with a date or a group of friends. 1/2 off the \$7 paint fee when you begin painting between 6 p.m.-7:45 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. Large selection of paintable items for \$20 or less. Great gift items! College ID required.

Place your color ad in The Rip. Call 395-4404 for the best ad deal

SKYDIVE TAFT

STUDENT DISCOUNT

VIDEO ... \$70

TANDEM ... \$140

ACCELERATED FREEFALL ... \$240

(661) 765-JUMP www.skydivetaft.com

Write a letter to the editor and drop it in The Rip. Office in Campus Center. No mail required. Be on time.

Supreme Bean

- Coffee
- Espresso
- Caesar's Deli Express
- Open 7 a.m. daily

3601 Mt. Vernon Ave.
Across from the BC football field



Check With Us!

- Free checking - Easy Access Checking (Up to first 10 checks per month)
- or
- VISA® Check Card (Use your VISA® Check Card in place of checks.)

KERN SCHOOLS
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
"Together, we have something special."

833-7900 Use our ATM in the BC Bookstore! Visit us on the internet at www.kfcu.org

NCUA

FUTURE...

The path you choose today can lead to tomorrow's success.

If you're ready to apply your knowledge and skills in the post-graduation job market, then toss your hat in with State Fund.

State Fund, the leading workers' compensation insurance carrier in California, is interested in graduates seeking opportunity and stability. We offer a wide range of positions throughout California, plus an environment that will foster your continued growth.

At State Fund you'll find exceptional benefits, professional training to expand your horizons, and many advancement possibilities.

Learn how you can join us by visiting www.scif.com or by contacting Human Resources at 415-565-1722. Then launch your career with State Fund and rise to new heights.

Career opportunities may be available in:

- Marketing
- Communications
- Underwriting
- Claims
- Loss Control
- Business Services
- Customer Service
- Legal
- Information Technology
- Finance and Accounting
- Human Resources
- Administration

STATE FUND
FLUID
Get More Done!

Don't be left in the dark when you pay for college.

There are 250,000 ways to pay for college with our Scholarship Channel.

Search over 250,000 scholarships in our free database.

Receive relevant scholarship updates through email.

Increase your success rate through articles and advice.

www.therip.com/scholarships

Get the Latest Campus News

OPINION

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Music industry deserves its losses from technology

Reference is made to the recent articles you published regarding frivolous lawsuits filed against individuals who download music from the Internet. These so-called "victims" — the record companies, producers, musicians, etc. — make a weak case for any sympathy from the public. Music producers have reaped billions upon billions of dollars every year since the dawn of the recorded sound. At first, their efforts resulted in sound quality improvements, such as going from amberol (cylinder) records to flat disks; from 78 rpm to 45 rpm.

But today's constantly changing methods of selling recorded music are nothing more than a clever marketing trick designed to separate honest people from their money.

Quality of recorded sound reached its peak in the 1970s. Since then, the move from records to eight tracks, then from tapes to compact discs, has no more resolved than to keep an indigent, gullible public begging for more.

The recording industry — indeed, the entertainment industry as a whole — is now being bitten in the butt by the very technology they themselves used to tout as their newest, latest improvement.

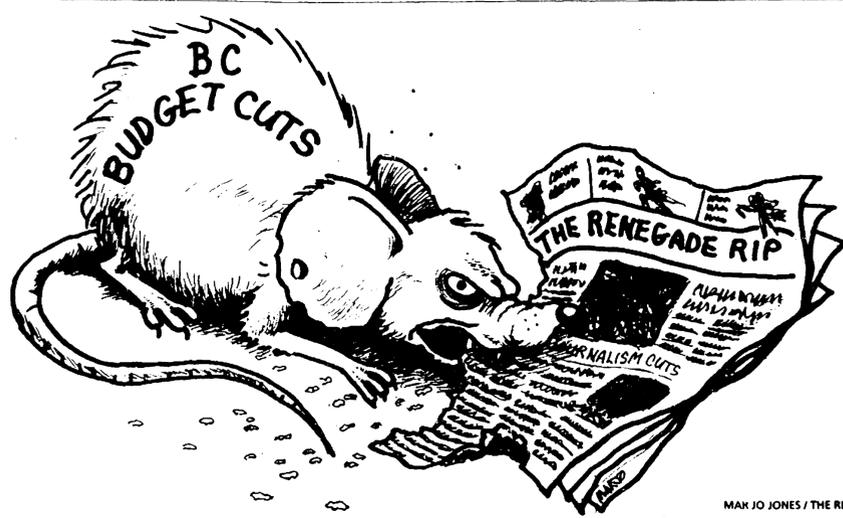
The public has wised up, too, by boycotting the purchase of overpriced compact discs — those same cheap, flimsy scraps of plastic AOL sends out every day by the millions for free.

There is nothing wrong with being in business and making a fair profit. But the music industry has abused its customers for far too many years. They deserve everything the future has in store for them.

Bravo to the American public, who have finally awakened to the arrogant, uncaring greed of the U.S. music industry.

What was that someone once said about "pay-back" being?

JASON HOUSTON
BC student



MAR JO JONES / THE RIP

Cuts eat away at news coverage

Friday marked the first time in 13 years that *The Renegade Rip* did not publish as scheduled.

Bakersfield College, dealing with the fallout from massive budget reductions by the state, has made deep cuts to the Journalism Program that are making it difficult for *The Rip* staff to do its job on deadline.

At the request of administrators, we trimmed travel and equipment funds and our printing budget, cutting down from 10 to only seven print editions per semester, which translates into reduced coverage of the news.

But that wasn't enough.

The college, in further efforts to streamline and reorganize the way things work, has punned the Journalism Program with staffing cuts.

The first victim: Rod Thornburg, *The Rip*'s 15-hour-a-week photo teaching assistant. When he returns from military duty, he will find that he has been reassigned to another area on campus, even though he has helped teach photography in the Journalism Program since 1983.

The loss of that position, lessened only somewhat by the addition of a four-hour-a-week adjunct photo instructor, leaves our photo staff with little guidance from a seasoned photojournalist to help them prepare their pictures for publication.

The second victim: Business Manager Robin Johnson, the program's 30-hour-a-week department assistant. Johnson recently was transferred from *The Rip* to an office in the Fine Arts building, on the other side of campus. While she continues to handle the paper's advertising and business affairs, she is no longer here to assist students and the public, assist with equipment, order supplies, or monitor us as we work on the paper in the adviser's absence.

Her relocation means our office is no longer open to *Rip* students or the public outside of regular class and production hours.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

In the end, it is our readers who lose. *The Rip* is a successful program with an award-winning tradition that dates back many years. Two weeks ago, the paper won 33 awards at the Journalism Association of Community Colleges' Southern California Regional Conference, which staffers paid for out of their own pockets to attend.

If college officials want to see that tradition continue, they should support the program with the staffing it needs, since the newspaper covers the campus community and offers readers a public forum.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

time to get them in the paper. In the end, it is our readers who lose. *The Rip* is a successful program with an award-winning tradition that dates back many years. Two weeks ago, the paper won 33 awards at the Journalism Association of Community Colleges' Southern California Regional Conference, which staffers paid for out of their own pockets to attend.

If college officials want to see that tradition continue, they should support the program with the staffing it needs, since the newspaper covers the campus community and offers readers a public forum.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

time to get them in the paper. In the end, it is our readers who lose. *The Rip* is a successful program with an award-winning tradition that dates back many years. Two weeks ago, the paper won 33 awards at the Journalism Association of Community Colleges' Southern California Regional Conference, which staffers paid for out of their own pockets to attend.

If college officials want to see that tradition continue, they should support the program with the staffing it needs, since the newspaper covers the campus community and offers readers a public forum.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

The Renegade Rip is the student voice of Bakersfield College, but these cuts threaten to reduce that voice to a mere whisper.

These cuts already have put a strain on our ability to get the paper out. The lack of support has resulted in missed deadlines and some long production hours.

STAFF EDITORIAL

CLERKS SHOULD PAY FAIR SHARE OF HEALTH CARE COSTS

By JENNIFER MILLS
Opinion Editor

It's called free enterprise. Grocery stores should be allowed to ask employees to help bear the rising cost of health care; and if they don't like it, they can quit.

Pharmaceutical prices are going up. And those who thought the cost of health insurance was going to stay the same are fooling themselves.

The grocery clerk strike is childish. Employees everywhere are having to help absorb the cost of health care.

Even college students are paying more for their health care, that is, the 25 percent to 30 percent that even have health coverage. Some of them who don't work full-time at: paying \$200 a month on top of class fees and living expenses. But you don't see them on strike.

At least grocery store employees have a choice of where to work. They can quit their jobs at Ralphs, Vons or Albertson's. Students aren't going to quit school.

"Every place you look, businesses are seeing double-digit increases in the cost of health care, and are having to be more selective about what they can offer their employees," said Jack Kyser of the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation in a recent advertisement put out by the three grocery chains.

Instead of striking with the union, why don't these clerks take action against the rising cost of health care? After all, they aren't the only ones feeling the pharmaceutical heat. Ask any senior citizen how much prescriptions cost.

When health care costs go up, so do employees' cost of health care coverage. The unions know this.

This is a free country, and employers have the right to run their businesses the way they want. If the employees don't like it, they can quit. That's why this is America.

By now, Santa Barbara was feeling the heat. As Vaqueros quarterback Austin Miller looked to make a deep pass in hope of a last score, Matt Muxlow of the 'Gades was all over it and made his way to sack him before the pass could be completed.

With 52 seconds left in the first quarter, Santa Barbara attempted a two-point conversion that was no good.

The intensity continued through the second quarter, with BC not letting up. The score continued to grow from the end of the second quarter from 21-0 to the fourth quarter, giving the 'Gades a 48-0 victory.

Anthony Stewart, Michael Cooper and Herod all scored touchdowns.

"We were down two games and it took its toll," said Renegade offensive guard Fred White.

"I played a decent game, but it wasn't just me. It took a whole team effort. We were prepared and we came out of two losses. We needed this one."

White hopes to make the playoffs and later on go pro in football.

"We are tired of losing," said inside linebacker Garrett Harker. The 'Gades have a record of 4-3 so far and have lost two consecutive games.

"We've been playing just really good defense all around. Losing is not an option. We have to stay up and stay fired up."

Wide receiver Michael Cooper added, "We had a few mistakes at the end, but we will polish those and execute. We have to execute every play and have every man do their job."

Cooper had a touchdown under his belt for the game.

Heimiller, BC's backup quarterback, proved that he could step up to the plate with only one interception.

"I'm just glad I got the opportunity to go in and show what I can do," he said. "Coach prepares all three of us (quarterbacks) all week and he gets us ready just in case this sort of thing happens. I was definitely nervous, but it was a good week to go in."

Running back Herod from Harlingen, Texas, not only had two touchdowns but also had 40 family members from his hometown fly out to see him in action.

"My family was here and I have to do this every game. I take my frustrations out on the football field and go hard out at practice and in everything. I make sure to put pressure on myself to score. I hope by next year to have 1,000 yards, 19 touchdowns and to go pro in football," said Herod.

His mom, Schunard Herod, said she was just thrilled to see him play.

"The best thing is not only to see my son, but to see the whole team coming together."

Santa Barbara's offensive coordinator, Jason Fowle, said the team will have to keep working.

"I think we just have to do a better job at overcoming adversity when things don't happen our way. We're just going to keep working on the basics and execute."

Head football coach for Santa Barbara, Reggie Bolton, commented after the game, "We didn't execute well, and we didn't face adversity when we had a chance to capitalize on some of the mistakes. This has been all year, though. It's something we have to work on. We'll go back and look at a game like this and look at our effort alone."

"One of the things the coaches and the players are upset about is we didn't play hard for 60 minutes like we try to do all the time."

The 'Gades kick off another game 4 p.m. Saturday against L.A. Pierce College at home.



MAR JO JONES / THE RIP

Limbaugh paddles up the river without a painkiller

By VICTOR GARCIA
Managing Editor

"Too many whites are getting away with drug use. The answer is... to find the ones who are getting away with it, convict them, and send them up the river."

The Enquirer report shows e-mails that Limbaugh and his former housekeeper had sent each other.

She writes, "I will grab all of them for you. And about how many big blues (code for the painkiller hydrocodone) for your departure and how many for today aside from the others?"

The article says that "Rush e-mailed back a huge order." In his reply he said, "400 today, keeping 100 in reserve. Another 3-400 for departure if the small blues come through."

Limbaugh is now being treated in a recovery facility.

He has asked people for their forgiveness.

"I ask now for your prayers. You know I have always tried to be honest with you and open about my life. So I need to tell you today that part of what you have heard and read is correct. I am addicted to prescription pain medication," he said on his radio show, a Calgary Herald story said.

Would Limbaugh have forgiven some other celebrity who abused drugs? No, he would have been the first to call for equal justice for all.

He has not formally been charged yet, but if he is charged, he could be sent to prison for five years, the maximum penalty under Florida law.

It's time for prosecutors to do exactly what Limbaugh demands, and that is to "find the ones who are getting away with it, convict them, and send them up the river."

Limbaugh is now being treated in a recovery facility.

He has asked people for their forgiveness.

"I ask now for your prayers. You know I have always tried to be honest with you and open about my life. So I need to tell you today that part of what you have heard and read is correct. I am addicted to prescription pain medication," he said on his radio show, a Calgary Herald story said.

Would Limbaugh have forgiven some other celebrity who abused drugs? No, he would have been the first to call for equal justice for all.

He has not formally been charged yet, but if he is charged, he could be sent to prison for five years, the maximum penalty under Florida law.

It's time for prosecutors to do exactly what Limbaugh demands, and that is to "find the ones who are getting away with it, convict them, and send them up the river."

Limbaugh is now being treated in a recovery facility.

He has asked people for their forgiveness.

"I ask now for your prayers. You know I have always tried to be honest with you and open about my life. So I need to tell you today that part of what you have heard and read is correct. I am addicted to prescription pain medication," he said on his radio show, a Calgary Herald story said.

Would Limbaugh have forgiven some other celebrity who abused drugs? No, he would have been the first to call for equal justice for all.

He has not formally been charged yet, but

SPORTS

Mud, Sweat and Happiness

Masochists find fulfillment in Marine Corps Support League's annual filthy fund-raiser

FIRST PERSON

Seth Nidever
STAFF WRITER

Pain can be a wonderful thing. Standing at the starting line of Volkslauf 2003, my worries about going back to school and how I was going to pay for it faded.

It was the kind of distraction that makes you forget about bigger problems because there is a more immediate one staring you in the face. Kind of like a soothing toothache. True, many people think a toothache is just a toothache. The thought of running, staggering and climbing through six miles of mud and obstacles sends them

running for the remote. These are the sane ones. They drink iced tea on the back patio, relax in jacuzzis, sit on the beach.

People with a masochistic inner-child do the Volkslauf Mud Run. They enjoy getting scraped up crawling on all fours. They love the slipping, the sloshing, the feeling of crossing the finish line with little or nothing left.

They aren't afraid to wear tights in public.

These are people with something to prove. That they can still get their body to do more or less do what they want it to. That they aren't over the hill.

That means finishing respectfully, a mysterious qualification that can mean anything from actually winning to crawling last across

the finish line.

I had my own definition. Ten years ago, it would have been winning. On this day, it was about endurance. About saving your energy for the long haul. About not dying short of the finish line.

Ten years ago, I would have taken off like a shot and probably ended up seeing double at the finish.

This time, I was passed in my tights and running shoes by a happy-go-lucky high schooler wearing sodden cotton pants and water-logged army boots.

He probably wasn't thinking, like I was, about the pleasure of scaled-down expectations. About the enjoyment of simply moving your body, which will stop moving soon enough. About the bond of knowing you aren't alone in that feeling. About deliberately being a kid again. About the pleasure of *not* winning.

Others understood. As they half-swam, half-walked through the final water hole, grinning, they linked arms with teammates and crossed the finish line that way, together. Their pleasure could not

be dampened by the fact that the winners had finished long before. Like me, they were savoring the struggle.

Hours after finishing, my school and work worries are back in focus. This time, however, I'm not as worried about the outcome.

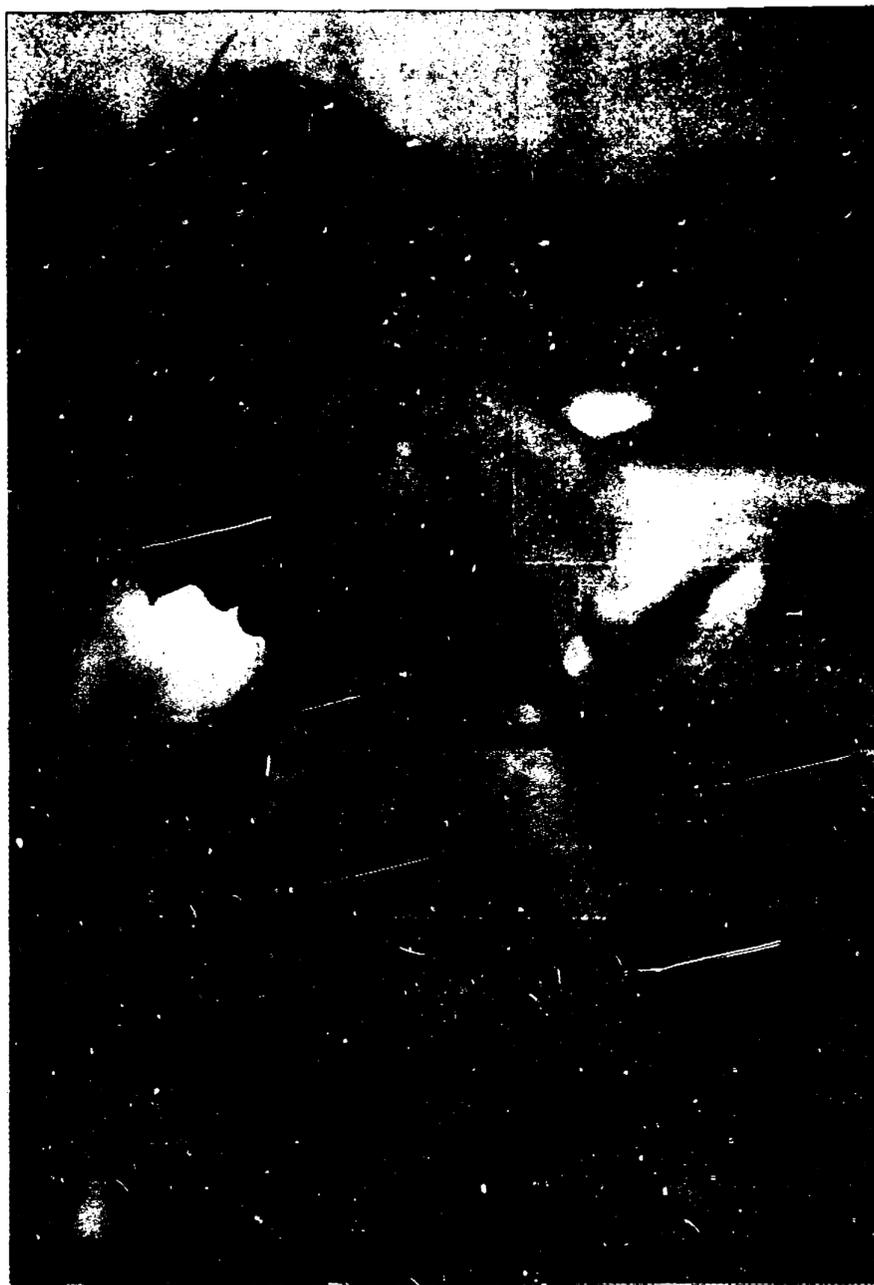


Seth Nidever braves a swim in one of many mudholes.



Left: Josie Martin of Team Doubletree gets hosed after getting dirty in the Volkslauf course. Her team eventually finished with a time of one hour and 59 minutes.

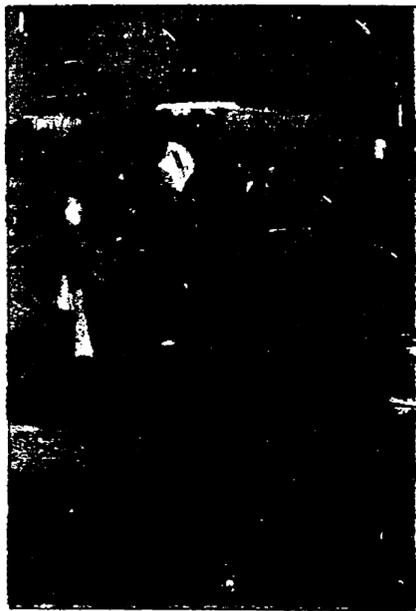
Below: Local resident Matt Anderson takes the time to hose off after enduring the course.



Above: Melissa Crawford drudges through one of the mud-filled obstacles on the course.

Right: Kate McDaniels and Larry Hudson are among those who completed the 6.2-mile Volkslauf race.

Far right: Tim Vallard pushes himself through the mud in the arduous event.



Photos by Lee Maxwell / The Rip

BC BRAINS *Compiled by Barry Lipson / The Rip*

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

What's an oxymoron?



Joseph Tablitt: "A moron with acne."



Christina Robles: "A bed without pillows."



Brian Cooper: "Acting stupid."



Lizette Hernandez: "A moron that likes ox."



Gustavo Arellano: "Opposites attracting."



Raziel Cortes: "Sweet and sour."

CORRECT ANSWER: An oxymoron is a figure of speech in which opposite or contradictory ideas or terms are combined.