



Bakersfield College needs a win Saturday to stay in playoff contention after losing 17-8 to Pierce College.

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Modern dance class demonstrates its talent with a performance on BC campus.

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THE RENEGADE RIP ⁷⁵ YEARS

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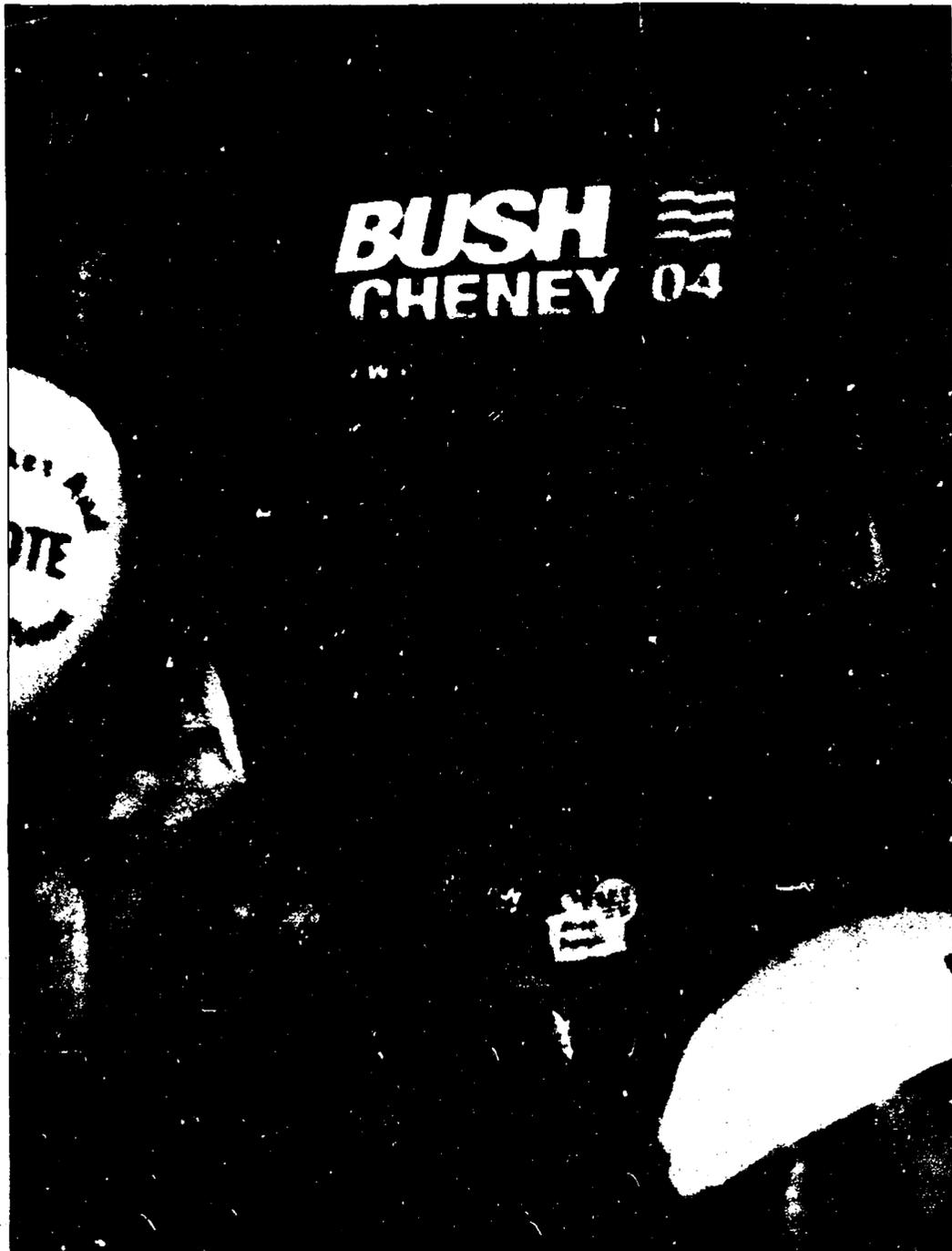
1929-2004

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Bakersfield College

November 5, 2004

Four more years



CHRIS WONG / THE RIP

Alexandra Avila raises her sign in support of President Bush at the Republican headquarters on election night.

Bush thanks Ohio

■ Kern County Republican headquarters was bustling with screams and smiles after the Bush/Cheney victory.

By ELADIO BOBADILLA
Rip staff writer

This time it came down to Ohio. And this time it was a clear victory. A crowd of Bush supporters in southwest Bakersfield's Republican Party of Kern County headquarters clapped and shouted in joy Tuesday as the results of the presidential campaign came on their television screens.

It was another story at the Democrats' election-day gathering in the Carpenter's Hall in downtown Bakersfield. What was supposed to be a nightlong victory party ended early in the evening.

"The middle class should tighten their belts because it's going to be a long four years," said Duane Moore, chairman of the Kern County Democratic Party.

Moore said he was disappointed to see President Bush win even with a shaky economy and the situation in Iraq.

"People aren't very intelligent," he said. "They look at 30-second sound bites, and they don't look at the facts. Poverty is rising, the middle-class is

struggling, and Iraq is a mess."

Kevin McDermott, Republican Party of Kern County chairman, credited Bush's win in part to the party's efforts to get its conservative base to the polls.

"We were optimistic, we had great hope and we had a tremendous turnout," he said.

Sen. John Kerry, speaking on CNN, gave his concession speech Wednesday after it became clear that he was not going to win the state of Ohio, effectively ending his hopes of capturing the White House. He had called earlier that day to congratulate President Bush.

"I spoke to President Bush, and I offered him and Laura our congratulations on their victory," he told a crowd of supporters in Boston. "We talked about the division in our country and the need, desperate need, for unity. Today, I hope we can begin the healing."

CNN reported that President Bush gave his victory speech from the Reagan building in Washington.

"America has spoken," he said. He also made an appeal for unity. "I will need your support, and I will work to earn it," he said, addressing those who had voted for his opponent.

At the time of Kerry's concession, Bush had 51 percent of the popular vote and 274 electoral votes. Kerry
See ELECTION, Page 4



VICTOR GARCIA / THE RIP

Incumbent Nicole Parra, top, won the 30th District Assembly seat against challenger and businessman Dean Gardner, below.



VICTOR GARCIA / THE RIP

SGA president steps down, cites problems

■ Ruiz says student government is hampered by homophobic comments and division among members.

By IAN HAMILTON
Managing Editor

Joe Ruiz, president of the Student Government Association, resigned last Friday citing a disagreement with some members of the executive board for expressing homophobic opinions in the office. Ruiz also accused members of forming a clique and avoiding accountability with their jobs.

Ruiz, who is openly gay, disagrees with a member of the board who placed a sign on their office door stating that "marriage equals one man, one woman."

"I'm not saying walk on glass around everyone, you have a right to your personal views. Just don't seem like you're causing division," Ruiz said. "The gay member will say, 'Humm, it doesn't seem like you're trying to work with me no matter how much I'm trying to get everyone to work together.'"

"I think certain people have problems with somebody being above them, being gay. I'm gay. I don't need to put up with gay comments or anything like that where stupid people are putting stuff up to divide the SGA when it was supposed to be about team building," Ruiz said.

Jason Ellertson, the new president, moved from vice president to fill the vacancy left by Ruiz. Ellertson said the particular sign was just one of several political signs that were hung on SGA office doors in the weeks prior to the election.

"This is an area where free speech is encouraged. Now they're down cause the election is over," Ellertson said.

Ruiz also said that he has had a number of issues with three members of the six-

person board. He said that members have formed a clique with secret meetings and have attempted to avoid job accountability.

"It irritates me when you have people who, honestly, sit in their offices all day and do nothing except study. And granted, maybe one or two people did a lot for homecoming, but the rest of the time they are there, they just sit in their office," Ruiz said.

Ruiz also said that he believes "50 percent (of the executive board) care what happens at this school; 50 percent care what happens to themselves."

Dean of students and SGA adviser Don Turney said that he believed any disagreements between members were typical of student governments across the country.

"What I have noticed is that they are pretty typical of a student government board of any college campus in America. They have a diversity of political opinions, thoughts, feelings and they're not afraid to express them, so as far as divisions go, I really don't think there's anything that is out of hand or undue," Turney said.

According to Turney, there was a meeting on Oct. 21 during which a vote of "no confidence" was cast against Ruiz's leading abilities in the senate and executive board.

Neither Ellertson nor Ruiz would say who put up the "one man, one woman" marriage sign.

According to the SGA constitution, the vacant position of vice president will be picked by Ellertson and approved by the senate.

— Staff writers Victor Garcia and Daniella Williams contributed to this story.

NORML fights for legal marijuana

By BARRY LIPSON
Rip staff writer

Some students are buzzed about a new group on campus, which is the second of its kind in Bakersfield. The National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML) meets at 7 p.m. every Tuesday in the Bakersfield College Fire-side Room and every third Thursday at Beale Library downtown.

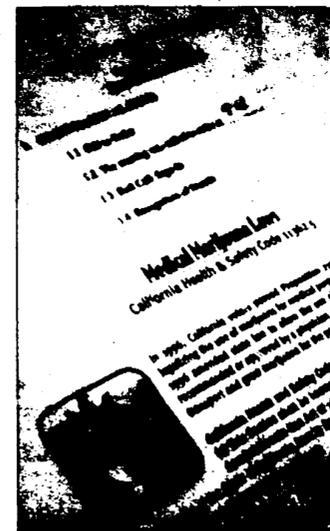
Since 1970, NORML has led successful efforts to decriminalize minor marijuana offenses in 11 states and significantly lower marijuana penalties in all others.

The group's goal is to decriminalize recreational use of marijuana and legalize use for medicinal purposes and legalize the use of industrial hemp.

Hemp is a fiber that contains no THC, the active chemical that causes intoxication in marijuana. Hemp can be used in the manufacturing of clothing, rope, paper and food. It can save thousands of trees lost every year. According to the Hemp Industries Association, "Hemp seed is far more nutritious than even soybean, contains more essential fatty acids than any other source, is second only to soybeans in complete protein (but is more digestible by humans), is high in B-vitamins and is 35 percent dietary fiber. Hemp seed is not psychoactive and cannot be used as a drug."

Matthew Angel, vice president of NORML at BC, said that Doug McAfee, president of Bakersfield NORML, petitioned students and got 100 signatures in four hours. At the first club meeting, a secretary was elected and ideas for fund-raisers were gathered.

The Rev. William Hoss, a member of



IAN HAMILTON / THE RIP

The BC NORML meeting agenda for Nov. 2 sits with a marijuana pamphlet.

Bakersfield NORML, attended the meeting and said, "I suffer from chronic cirrhosis, and my wife suffers from Addison's disease. Without legal medicinal marijuana, we'd be forced to be slaves to synthetic manmade drugs, such as Vicodin, for pain relief. People are afraid to put themselves up front because President Bush has started a war against medicinal marijuana."

BC NORML will possibly be making t-shirts and holding rummage sales to raise funds for supplies and for making fliers to help push awareness of the cause.

CAMPUS

Directing for pennies

Editor's note: This article is part of a series spotlighting BC and local artists who are talented but "unsigned" to any major company.

By PHILLIP G. KOPP
Rip staff writer

Imagine investing \$12,000 dollars of your own money into a play that receives great reviews, celebrity praise, earns top awards and respect by the artistic community, and you didn't earn a dime. This scenario is all too familiar for director Roger Mathey.

After receiving his bachelor's degree in theater from Chapman University in 1991, Mathey worked as a personal assistant in Hollywood film. It was his work in the movie industry where he developed distaste for the business.

"I hated the film industry, which is why I do theater," Mathey said. "Everybody was backstabbing each other, and Hollywood was all about who you knew and who you could screw over."

Mathey then moved to Denver where he started his own theater company until he carried his directing bags to San Francisco. He then made his way to Bakersfield in 1997 to get his teaching credential but was

halted when the program was already full.

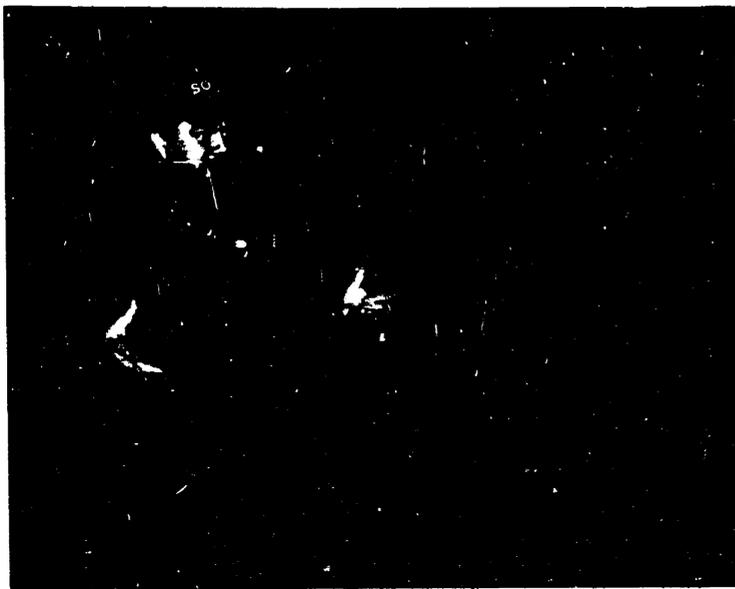
Faced with a roadblock, Mathey decided to use his time and signed up for the Kern Shakespeare Festival at Bakersfield College. Mathey's work in local theater was just beginning. He soon opened his own downtown theater, "The Space." There, he could do the kind of plays he wanted to do. This is where Mathey also started his own production company, "Seat of Your Pants," which is how he survived.

"I've worked other jobs like, I worked for the county, I taught technical theater at BC," Mathey said. "I've kept afloat. I've worked jobs that kept me in the industry because the whole 'desk job' thing just doesn't work for me."

After closing the doors of "The Space" after a year and a half, Mathey saved up to produce and direct the play adaptation of "Transporting" in Los Angeles. He received the highest theater directing awards in the city for his work and was finally getting his foot in the door.

Mathey went on to direct other plays, such as "Hurly Burly," "House of Yes" and "Halkivah," which he is currently in talks with the HBO film division on a movie version of the script.

"After the show closed they (HBO) called me and were interested in reading the script," Mathey said. "So



Former BC instructor Roger Mathey, now an award-winning theater director, talks about his career highs and lows.

DENNIS MAHAN / THE RIP

I sent them a copy, and they are still in the process of looking it over."

Mathey knows that things in Hollywood are never for certain and stays optimistic on the green light from HBO.

He's currently working in Los Angeles, where he does stage management work, which is one of the few

jobs in theater that actually pays. He claims he loves what he does and doesn't put time limits on his progress.

"It took me 12 years to get recognized by my peers for directing," he said. "And it may take me another 12 years to get to the next level of wherever I'm planning to go."

Mathey said that, ultimately, he would like to get his teaching credential and move back to Hawaii, where he attended high school. He said he would like to teach high school theater and spend his mornings surfing, his afternoons teaching, and his nights on the beach, all the while writing his great American novel.

"I don't have any commitments to anybody but me right now, so I can be selfish and do what I want to do," Mathey said. "Maybe someday I will settle down, but in the meantime I don't want to have any regrets in my life. I want to know that I tried as hard as I could to do what I wanted to do."

BC BRAINS

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

What does the word luster mean?



Lety Pipimeda, liberal studies: "A sexual craving."



Jen Tan, nursing: "I'm not sure what it means."



Albe Molina, nursing: "When it's all smooth and shiny, that's luster."



Janie Freeman, office assistant: "Luster? I thought it means shiny. Shiny, clean."



Ernesto Guerrero, engineering: "Luster? Luster. Uh, somebody who lusts."



Orlando Guiley, nursing: "Luster? Like a shine or a way something reflects, I guess."

Compiled by Marilyn Whipkey / The Rip

Correct answer: Luster is the glow of reflected light.



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OPINION

TiVo's plot to end free TV as we know it

Commercial-free TiVo seems harmless but will cause advertising to become part of the program.

By BARRY LIPSON
Rip staff writer

What is the world's oldest profession? Prostitution? Wrong! The world's oldest profession is advertising, because before the first prosti-

tute could retail her body she had to let the consumers know it was available.

By no means am I a big fan of advertising. I hate those pop-up ads you see on the Internet as much as anyone. However, being the world's oldest profession, advertisers have learned a trick or two and in no way will they allow consumers to negate their work.

The multimillion-dollar salaries given to the stars of our favorite shows are paid for not by the fans, but by advertisers who do so in ex-

actly the way you see on the Internet as much as anyone. However, being the world's oldest profession, advertisers have learned a trick or two and in no way will they allow consumers to negate their work.

change for the airing of commercials for their wares.

TiVo, for those who don't know, and I applaud you if you don't, is a device that allows you to record television programming digitally and gives you the option of skipping over commercials that these advertisers pay for with millions of dollars.

The fall out of TiVo is that advertisers will either stop advertising on television and free TV will be a thing of the past, or their commercials will go from being placed between the scenes to being placed on the show ala pop-up ads.

We have already seen this fallout via reality shows such as "American

Idol," which interviews contestants in a room filled with a couch shaped like a Coca-Cola label and advocates text messaging through your cell phone. What's with that guy on that home makeover show who shouts through a bullhorn, "Make way for the Sears furniture!"

Honestly the worst thing about TiVo, in my opinion, is the fact that eventually I, too, will own one.

Being Jewish, guilt is a part of my life. Just as I feel guilty about eating meat and wearing a leather jacket, I again will feel guilty when a giant

Trojan condom bounces across the screen during a debate over stem cells.

Is TiVo something that will cause a paradox that will destroy the world? In a word, yes. If television is as much a part of your life as it is mine then the fallout of such an explosion will be felt for eonities. It's Armageddon folks.

I suggest taking up arms and defending yourself so you don't feel the wrath from a few radicals who think they've won a war they cannot possibly win.

Fishing net best act of the night

By PHILLIP G. KOPP
Rip staff writer

The theater was large, the enthusiasm great and the crowd... small. This was the atmosphere of the Kern County Short Film Festival on Saturday morning at The Majestic Fox Theater.

My efforts to meet the next big director were met with much dismay. The first filmmaker was a 12 year-old girl, I doubted she was on her way to Hollywood. Yet, I was still hoping that she had "Little Man Tate."

Sigh, I decided to focus on the films and sat down to watch the upcoming movies, which became my second mistake.

The first was a suspense thriller titled, "Disposable." It's about this geeky actor who finds a disposable camera with more than 20 exposures left. He takes the camera and uses it on his trip, but when the film gets developed the first few pictures are that of a girl being murdered. Good idea, but a lot of films start out as "good ideas" then turn into junk. Just look at "Gods and Generals" or "Glitter."

The next films I saw wasn't any better. One was about a guy dealing with the death of a boy he ran over while driving under the influence. Another was about a girl lost in the desert, then a horribly edited teen documentary about drunken driving. The highlight was a stop-motion

comedy about fishing gear that takes itself on a fishing trip. I liked that one the best. The performance of the fishing net was definitely Oscar worthy.

It all came to a halt for me as I received a phone call from my wife, which meant it was time to leave. I wanted to stick around, but I think fate got me out of that theater. P.s. I cinema makes me nauseous.

I hate to criticize, but let's face it, there are good movies and bad movies, and I saw some bad ones. I still got some great interviews that you'll never see, but hey, who cares?

There was something I learned about independent film, though. All you really need is a digital camera, a computer, some editing software and a bunch of actors willing to work for free. Yes, you too can be a cult icon thanks to the advancement of technology and people's greed to be famous. Heck, I'm one of those people, and due to the number of rejection letters from agencies and production companies that I've received over the years, I've decided to aim low and work in porn.

Those porn types are always looking for saps with ideas and I hear the money isn't too bad, either. So, instead of hoping to write "Men in Black 3," I'm looking to write "Men in Black Women 3" and watch the success roll from there. See you on the covered shelves folks. I'm moving to Van Nuys to be a star.

Election madness ends, now it's time to focus on what's important

By PHILLIP G. KOPP
Rip staff writer

The race is over and the election has come to an end, which means one powerful thing: People can quit talking about it! For the past month I have been drenched in politics. Republicans spouting about this and that against Democrats and Democrats doing the same, all the while Nader supporters are putting in their two cents.

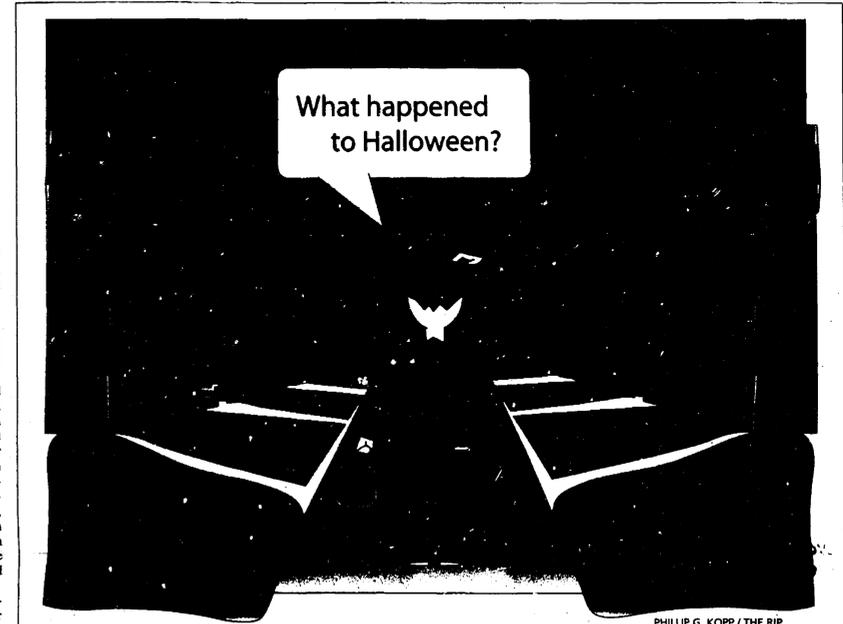
Enough already, folks. It's time to take a breath and soak in some serious relaxation while we adjust to the fact of Bush running the country for another term. I know that's what I'll be doing it for the next four years. You may have voted for him or against him but still, the fact remains that we are all Americans and we're all in this crazy country together.

We must all now hope for the best and pray everything goes well. Let's all start focusing our attention on other things like, music, sex and "Star Wars: Episode 3" which will be shown before "The Incredibles." Like many Star Wars fans, we are all hoping that young Darth Vader won't be as whiny as he was in the last one.

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PHILLIP G. KOPP / THE RIP

Scrooge arrives early this year: the lost spirit of all Halloween night

By JULIANNA CRISALLI
Features Editor

Remember when your mom spent two weeks sewing you a Halloween costume? You would spend all Halloween night going door-to-door collecting candy.

Then you would come home, dump it all over the floor and search for your favorite candies as the Peanut television special "It's the Great Pumpkin Charlie Brown" played on television. Those days seem to be gone. What happened?

Even though I no longer collect candy on Halloween night, for the past few years I have spent weeks

planning the scariest decorations and the best scares for the trick-or-treaters. This year was no exception, but to my dismay, we received only four small groups of visitors.

Where has the spirit of Halloween gone?

At first I thought maybe it was just the neighborhood I was in this year, but as I drove through different parts of town, every street I saw was dark, desolate and there was no candy or costumes to be seen.

I currently live in Tehachapi and seriously, last year, the streets were bustling with kids even as the rain and snow began to fall. I expected this year in the warmer weather of Bakersfield it would be even better.

The last group simply ran away with two of our lanterns. They didn't even stop and get the free candy first.

There were no tricks or treats to be found. Perhaps some areas were packed, but it was odd to drive for blocks and blocks and not see one candy light on.

I must say I truly miss the old Halloween spirit. Then, on top of my disappointment at the turnout, the last group that stepped up to our

house of terror did not ring for candy, but simply ran away with two of our lanterns.

They weren't expensive or flashy by any means. They only consisted of an old jar, fish-tank pebbles and a votive candle, but it's the principle of the thing. I mean how pathetic do you have to be to steal 25-cent lanterns? They didn't even stop and get the free candy first.

We all need to take a step back in our childhoods. Carve pumpkins, make your own costume, decorate your house bigger and better than your neighbor, and hand out tricks and treats until the last costume has been put away. Save Scrooge for Christmas.

'GADE FEEDBACK

What is your reaction to the result of the presidential election?



Will Hungerford, English: "I'm not satisfied. Who I voted for did not win the election."



Shevone Baker, liberal studies: "I'm happy I wanted Bush to win."



Clarence West, psychology: "I don't want Bush back in office again. I don't like Bush as far as all the programs he cut."



Abelina Gomez, nursing: "Who's the president? I don't even know."



Cheikh Dicko, business administration: "I'm not surprised. I was expecting Bush to win."



Sheila Calloway, journalism: "I wanted Kerry to win. I do not like Bush."

Compiled by Daniela Williams / The Rip



Winner of the 2003 JACC Pacemaker Award

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If an organization submits a letter as a group, it must be signed by only one person, either the leader of the organization or the letter writer. Pen names are not allowed and anonymous letters will not be published.

How to reach us

Address: Bakersfield College, 1801 Panorama Drive, Bakersfield, CA 93305
Newsroom: Campus Center 1
Phone: (661) 395-4324
Fax: (661) 395-4027
E-mail: rip@cc.ca.us
Web site: www.therip.com

NEWS

BC campus security officers take a man into custody Wednesday. According to security Chief Mark Graf, he was screaming gibberish in the BC library.



DENNIS MAHAN / THE RIP

Flu virus vaccine clinic at BC canceled

By ELADIO BOBADILLA
Rip staff writer

The flu vaccine shortage and its consequences have hit home. A clinic to administer flu shots was supposed to be held Oct. 20 in the Bakersfield College Student Health Center, but because of a shortage nationwide it was canceled, leaving many without much-needed shots as flu season set in.

Smoked. Strong said the criteria used to determine who obtains the vaccine has been narrowed.

Only those considered 'high risk' will get a flu shot," she said. They include children under six, senior citizens (65 and older), those with a chronic illness, residents of nursing homes, pregnant women (in their second trimester) and health care workers.

Smoke Tree Mobile Estates, 4435 Hughes Lane, and from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Kern City, 1103 Pebble Beach Drive.

The U.S. government had relied on Chiron to produce the bulk of the vaccines, and when the contamination was found, health officials turned to the company, Aventis Pasteur, but the 55 million shots it produced were not enough, according to a recent Time magazine report.

ELECTION: Parra wins 30th Assembly over Gardner

Continued from Page 1

and 48 percent of the popular vote and 238 electoral votes. Two-hundred seventy electoral votes are needed to win.

Steve Holmes, political science professor at Bakersfield College, said he was not surprised Bush had won. "It's natural that Americans rally behind their president in time of war," he said, "and he also had better name recognition and a sense of conservatism most Americans share."

But even if the government is less polarized, Americans remain so, and BC students are no exception.

"To me, (Bush) has been a good president. He is strongly against gay marriage, and I also feel that marriage is between one man and one woman," said Maria Grimaldo, 26. Another aspect of the president she supports, she said, is the Bush doctrine of military preemption. "If we hadn't gone to war, and we were attacked, people would be blaming him for not acting."

But others were not as thrilled about Bush's victory or his policies. "I hate Bush," said Zack Blumberg, 18. "He really screwed up with the war in Iraq."

The heated 30th District state Assembly race was won by Democrat Nicole Parra.

She received 55 percent of the vote, and Dean Gardner received the remaining 45 percent of the vote. Gardner said he was disappointed at the negativity in this race.

Parra said that all of Gardner's tax liens, bankruptcies and lawsuits are backed up by officials records. She commented no further on the subject, and instead made promises to ease the financial burden on community college students and to develop a health care program that covers all Californians.

BC wrestling team defeats Moorpark

The Bakersfield College wrestling team came back from 12-0 to beat Moorpark 37-15 Wednesday, with three straight pins by Matt Maldonado, Miguel Gutierrez and Ryan Corn.

Maldonado, wrestling in the 141-pound division, pinned Moorpark's Derrick Shima in the second period, and BC's Miguel Gutierrez, last year's state champ, pinned Alex Zuniga in the 149-pound division. The third pin of the night came 1 minute and 10 seconds into the 157-pound match when Corn pinned Tyrone Mendez.

The BC women beat L.A. Pierce 2-1 at home on Tuesday with an early goal scored by Ashley Pappas and a late goal scored by Beatriz Guzman. Goalkeeper Leah Mau had seven

saves for the 'Gades. BC's record is 6-5-5 and 4-2-3 in the Western State Conference.

After winning the first game of the match, the BC volleyball team lost to L.A. Pierce 24-30, 30-23, 30-22, 30-24 Tuesday. Toni Alvarez led the team with 13 kills, while Melani Gibson and Doneice Woody each added seven kills.

BC placed fourth at Olivias Park Golf Course in the final WSC tournament of the season Monday. Santa Barbara won the conference title in sudden death over College of the Canyons. Brittany Porterfield shot a 90 and will be the only player to represent the 'Gades at the Southern California regionals, which begin Monday at Sandpiper Golf Club in Santa Barbara.



DENNIS MAHAN / THE RIP

BC wrestler Andrew Guzman, top, takes control of match against Moorpark's Walter Mendez. Guzman won the match 17-0.

Football team must win its last two games to make playoffs

By LEANNE CAYE
Rip staff writer

If the Bakersfield College Renegades hope to play in a postseason bowl, they will have to beat their last two opponents on the regular season schedule. College of the Canyons and Ventura College.

The Renegades are 6-2 overall and 3-2 in the Western State Conference North Division. "I compiled all the scores of the teams within the conference," said Jan Staebbe, BC athletic director. "The bottom line is this. We are currently rated No. 8 in the Commission on Athletics Southern California coach's poll and only have two losses. We need to win out to stay ahead of the teams with three losses."

"The top eight teams in the final CAA coaches poll at the end of the regular season will go to the state playoffs, while the top 12 will play in bowl games. If we win out we will probably qualify with a seven or eight rating for postseason play. What we were hoping for was a playoff game in the Golden Empire Bowl."

The first opponent, College of the Canyons, is unbeaten and currently ranked No. 2 in Southern California, according to the California Community Colleges Football poll.

The game will take place at Memorial Stadium at 7 p.m. Saturday. "This is our last hope to make the playoffs," said BC quarterback Thomas Peregrin. "We're excited to get them at home. Canyons is a really good team, and they have really been smacking some good teams that we have played."

In order for BC to beat highly regarded College of the Canyons, the 'Gades probably will have to score more than eight points and defend their goal, something they didn't do in a 17-8 loss to Los Angeles Pierce on Oct. 30.

"The Canyons game is going to be tough, and we are definitely going to have to play our best game, we still haven't played our best game," said BC linebacker Chris Shipp. "We have to come out with some firepower, play all four quarters and get it done."

It looked as though the 'Gades had that defensive firepower in the first quarter against the Pierce Brahmas, when BC defensive lineman Ismail Abdunafi sacked Pierce quarterback Thomas Herringshaw in the end zone for a safety and BC took an early 2-0 lead.

But after a 40-yard field goal by kicker Bryan Sullivan late in the first quarter gave BC a 5-0 lead, things started to unravel for the 'Gades.

"We came out ready to play," Peregrin said, "but things started to go wrong. We had turnovers, and we never got it going on offense. You

have to give Pierce credit. They're a good team, and they weren't going to lie down just because of our (6-1) record. They had nothing to lose and everything to gain, and they stuck it to us."

This was especially true in the second half as the Brahmas played stellar defense, forcing the 'Gades to turn over the ball on key drives that determined the outcome of the game.

One of those turnovers occurred early in the third quarter when Peregrin was sacked and fumbled the ball, giving the Brahmas good field position at the BC 18-yard line.

Pierce took advantage of the short field as they scored the first touchdown of the game for either team on a 10-yard run by tailback Perry Wilson, the extra point was good by kicker Greg Fullerton and Pierce led for the first time 7-5.

for the 'Gades offensively. On the next offensive series, fullback Joel Vengas fumbled the ball giving the Brahmas good field position again at the BC 29-yard line.

It looked as though Pierce was about to score again when BC defensive back Devin Patterson intercepted a tipped pass and returned the ball to the Pierce 12, setting up an opportunity for BC to regain the lead.

But once again, the BC offense would be denied as it could only produce an 8-yard gain to the 4 yard line before Peregrin's pass was intercepted in the end zone, shifting momentum back to the Brahmas.

In the fourth quarter, Pierce didn't waste any time putting the winning points on the board. On a well-executed 72-yard swing pass play from quarterback Thomas Herringshaw to receiver Ramon Perry, the Brahmas scored their second touchdown and Fullerton added the

extra point to go ahead 14-5. "We underestimated them," said BC strong safety Kenneth Atkins. "They came to play. Coach Chudy told us all week they were capable of making the plays to beat us, and they did."

The stingy Pierce defense held BC to a total of 56 yards and forced BC to settle for a 23-yard field goal by Sullivan after the 'Gades had moved the ball to the Pierce 6-yard line.

The field goal closed the gap to 14-8. The Brahmas made sure there would be no comeback as they moved into field goal range with 2:09 left. Fullerton nailed a 30-yard kick, securing the 17-8 victory for the Brahmas.

"We didn't execute on offense," said BC running back Thomas Stancil. "The defense spent too much time on the field. We have to execute our plays on offense to beat Canyons."

Will Institute relocates employees to Bakersfield College

The Kern Community College District announced its plans for moving personnel from the Will Institute, where a "dust problem" has caused discomfort during renovations. Corporate and Community Services, Small Business Development Center and all BC classes will move to BC's main campus. These programs will be housed in modular buildings next to the Business Education Building. Payroll employees have also been relocated to the main campus, in Levinson Hall.

BC repairing roof of Student Services Building

Repairs are being made to the roof of the Student Services Building, causing Supportive Services to cancel

tomorrow's test accommodations for students with disabilities, according to an e-mail from Angelica Gomez, director Supportive Services. The test accommodations were supposed to take place after 5 p.m. Because of the repairs, gas was turned off on campus Oct. 29 and remained off until Oct. 31.

BC awards 16 awards at Journalism Conference

The Journalism Conference of California Colleges competitions throughout the state. In the JACC Southern California mail-in competition, the Rip staff took second place for best use of photography, second place for depth news story/series and third place for front page design/broadsheet.

Lee Maxwell had an honorable mention for sports action photo, and Carisa Dalton had an honorable mention for sports profile feature story.

Entries for the mail-in competition had to come from issues published during the 2003-04 school year, and awards winners were announced Oct. 16 at the JACC Southern California Conference at California State University, Fullerton.

Five members of the Rip staff competed in on-the-spot competition while attending the JACC Northern California Conference at San Francisco State University on Oct. 30.

Hamilton, the Rip's managing editor, took second place for news photo, third place for front page layout/broadsheet and joined with Editor in Chief Victor Garcia for third place in bring-in team feature.

Reporter Eladio Bobadilla placed first and Features Editor Crisalli took third in the headline writing competition.

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Expressive motions

Eve-Lyne Thomas' Modern Dance class put on its first performance at Bakersfield College on Nov. 3. Students used a mixture of jazz and hip hop in a creative expressive form. Students choreographed the performance with direction from Thomas.

Students like Beth Williams and Louis Omalin weren't nervous about the performance and wanted to remind people that they have a dance program here and encouraged other students to join. The only concern was dancing on grass, but the dancers didn't seem fazed by the challenge.

"I am promoting the dance department as much as we can," Thomas said.

"This is an extremely enthusiastic group. They are very open to learning new things and expanding their self expression."



Right: Yoana Madrigal performs with her modern dance class on the grass outside the Science and Engineering building.

Below: Eve-Lyne Thomas' modern dance class performs its routine for students on the BC campus Nov. 3.

PHOTOS BY DENNIS MAHAN / THE RIP



Adam Sandler's new CD even stupider than stupid humor

By BARRY LIPSON
Rip staff writer

Recently, I wrote a memorial to Rodney Dangerfield, a man whose comedy was predictable yet so natural that merely looking at him caused one to break into laughter. For him to say during his routine, "I get no respect," is like The Rolling Stones playing "Satisfaction." It was expected even though the audience had heard it a million times.

What made Dangerfield unique was his ability to relate to his audience. Adam Sandler needs to realize this. Sandler's new CD, "Shhh...Don't Tell," is an abomination. I cannot relate to his bits

What does amaze me is that Sandler, who can carry a tune about as far as I can carry Oprah Winfrey, made it onto the Billboard top 20.

about gay robots or "The Amazing Willy Wanker."

What does amaze me is that Sandler, who can carry a tune about as far as I can carry Oprah Winfrey, made it onto the Billboard top 20 with a dance tune called "Secret."

The real secret is how he has become so successful. I am all for stu-

pid humor. The Three Stooges and the Marx Brothers are perfect examples. Three uncouth simpletons in need of anger management show that they are truly geniuses by getting themselves invited to high society parties average people could only imagine attending.

OK, at least there's a point there somewhere. Sandler's CD is pointless, mindless drivel that could only appeal to ... to ... I don't know exactly. If you find this funny then it's time to quit whatever it is you're smoking.

Don't get me wrong, Adam Sandler's Chanukah Song is a holiday favorite. But this CD will go down as one of show business' worst mistakes.

'Ray': the story of a legend

By JEANETTE BORLAND
Rip staff writer

Life is full of new things to do and try and this review is something new for me. A movie that is based on someone's life is a challenge. I wanted to see the movie "Ray" because I didn't know much about him except that he was a famous singer. This movie showed me that we can't always control which path life will take us down, but we can control how we respond.

The movie is based on the life of Ray Charles, played by Jaime Foxx, who gave an outstanding performance.

The movie "Ray" shows that no matter what life throws you, you have the choice to take it with strength or weakness. "Ray" is a movie that leaves you feeling like no matter what difficulties you may have, you can't let it stop you from becoming what you want to be. As I watched



Jamie Foxx as American legend Ray Charles in the musical, biographical drama, "Ray."

PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSAL STUDIOS

this movie, I learned a great deal about the famous man. I learned that he wrote, produced his own music, and took his payment for his work in the form of one-dollar bills.

I didn't know that he was a heroin addict, or that he had many affairs, one which he had a child with, but putting aside those things, I learned that Ray Charles didn't let his physical limitations get in his way of self-assurance. Despite that fact that he was born into a poor family, he had a strong mother that taught him, you maybe be blind but not stupid. Ray Charles lived his life exactly that way. Life can give us different paths, but let us choose to respond in a way that shows our strength.

Weight loss program at BC

By JEANETTE BORLAND
Rip staff writer

A weight-loss program - called Choices At-Work - is being offered at noon on Mondays in the Bakersfield College Finlison Building.

Jan Gradowitz, wife of radio personality Steve Gradowitz, is a former Weight Watchers leader who has formed the group to offer people a choice about the lifestyle changes that best fits them to help lose weight. This is a 14-week program, but people can join any time. A fee is charged to cover expenses such as cards, a planner and educational information materials.

"One size doesn't fit all...everyone is different," Gradowitz said.

Gradowitz has members of the group weigh themselves each week on a professional scale and they dis-

cuss the foods they ate during the past week. Those foods are written into a planner.

"I give them an evaluation and personalize it to the individual," Gradowitz said.

The group has about eight women, but men are more than welcome to join, according to Gradowitz. The group is there to offer support, encouragement, and accountability for one another and have fun in the process, according to Gradowitz. She offers different diet options to see what works best for that person.

Jana Oldham, a secretary on campus, is a member and contact person for Choice At Work. "(It's) very convenient for me. (It's) on my lunch hour rather than trying to find something after work," Oldham said.

The group is currently made up of faculty, but students are welcome.

<p><i>A Doll's House</i> by Henrik Ibsen Featuring CSUB Theatre Students Nov. 5, 6 (8pm), Nov. 7 (2pm) Doré Theatre \$10 General Admission / \$8 Seniors (60+) / \$5 Students</p>	
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Thursday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Friday 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Please provide the following documents at Job Placement: Social Security card or U.S. Birth Certificate and one picture ID (driver's license, State ID card or BC Gades card). All documents must be originals.

The number of job possibilities available varies each semester. For more information please contact Liz at 395-4537 or Job Placement at 395-4452.



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BC student Lauren Saldubehere goes through agony to continue her career as a ballet dancer.

Bakersfield College football team will take on Fullerton as it hosts Golden Empire Bowl on Saturday.



THE RENEGADE RIP

www.therip.com

Nearly half of SGA budget goes to officers

Student government executive board divides \$25,000 in yearly stipends.

By VICTOR GARCIA
Editor in Chief

Student Government Association executive board members at Bakersfield College are spending nearly half of their budget on themselves.

In their 2004-2005 budget, it shows \$25,000 being allocated for the stipends, which are salaries for executive board members. That is 44 percent of SGA's budget, which is totaled at \$56,500. The student government has \$2,000 allocated for Spring

Fling and Homecoming combined. Caris Reyes, department assistant, said that every executive officer receives stipends except Prayas Patel, the vice president, who chooses not to receive the stipend.

"For the time they put in, students are getting a huge bang for their buck out of these guys (executive board officers) because they work so hard."

— Don Turney,
dean of students/SGA adviser

The president, Jason Ellertson, receives approximately \$405 per month. The other five officers, Raul Jimenez, secretary; Ryan Busby, treasurer; Kikue Hagishadi, activity liaison; David Stenson, legislative liaison; and Ryan Schutt, general counsel, all receive approximately \$324 per month. Ellertson replaced Joseph Ruiz, who resigned as president and cited division among board members.

Reyes said that officers have to put in 12 hours per week, except for the president, who is required to work 15 hours per week.

"The stipend allows the quality people to be here working for the student body."

Ellertson said.

California State University, Bakersfield, a four-year college, has a total student government budget of \$573,332, also gives out stipends.



Source: Student Government Association

IAN HAMILTON / THE RIP

However, CSUB's total stipends are \$250,000, which is about 4 percent of its budget.

Student government officers at Pomona College and Cerrito Community College, the other two colleges in the Kern Community College District, do not receive any stipends. Don Turney, Santa Barbara Community College student government adviser, said in a telephone interview that currently Santa Barbara student government officers receive no stipends.

Josey Arellano, San Diego City College student government treasurer, said in a telephone interview that their officers do receive stipends. Their president receives \$200 a month. Arellano said that 13 percent of their budget is allocated for stipends. Last year at BC, there was \$17,000 allocated for stipends. SGA members last year voted unanimously 7-0 to give themselves a raise. Don Turney, dean of students and

SGA adviser, said that "for the time they (executive board officers) put in, students are getting a huge bang for their buck out of these guys because they work so hard." When Turney was asked if he thought it was proper procedure to have stipends in a time when budgets are being cut, he said, "Absolutely, because they represent the students. The students elected them. It's written into the constitution. They're paid minimum wage, but they all put

in far more than their 12 hours, 15 hours a week."

Ellertson said that he agreed with Turney's "students are getting a huge bang for their buck" comment.

"We are only provided stipends based on minimum wage. We don't get paid any more money for the hours over that we work a week and in all honesty, between meetings off campus, meetings on campus, we put in more than 20 hours a week."

Ellertson said that \$25,000 is the "yearly estimate" and that "if you break it down by seven people over the entire year it is going to be less than minimum wage per hour that's worked."

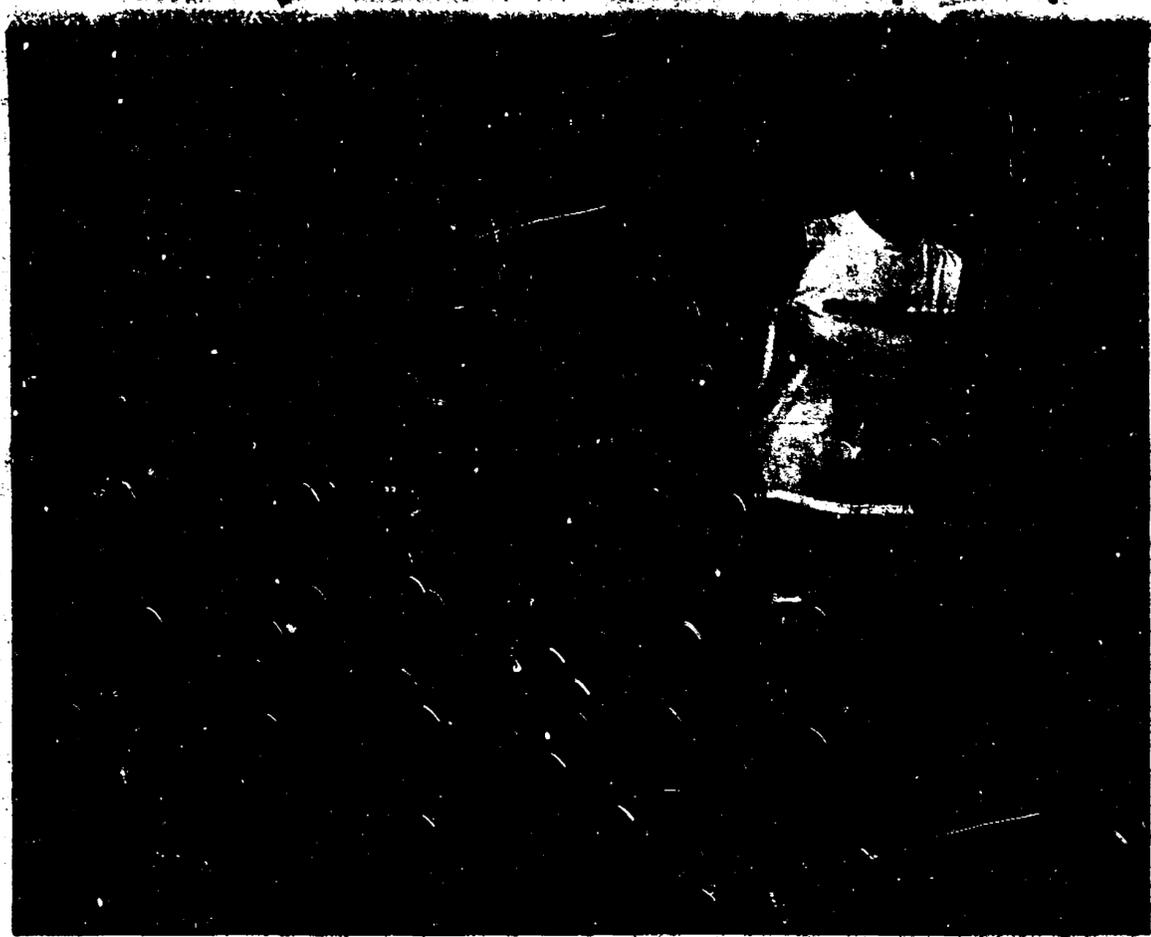
"Stipends are important. The cost of education is dramatically increasing. Students are unable to attend even at a community college level, without having some source of income, a second job," he said.

All but two of several BC students interviewed do not think SGA members should be getting stipends. They said it should be volunteer work.

"To be putting money in their own pockets, it's just not right," said Jesus Valenzuela, 27, a human services major. "I don't think that's fair."

William Washington, 22, said, See STIPENDS, Page 3

Cross country teams head for state championship



DEWIS MAHAN / THE RIP

BC cross-country runner and Western State Conference champion Brittany Grimes, right, practices with teammates for the Southern California Regionals, where she placed second.

Grimes, Perezchica lead runners

By LEANNE CAVE
Rip staff writer

The Bakersfield College cross-country teams will be well represented when they run for the state championship on Saturday at Woodward Park in Fresno.

Brittany Grimes, Western State Conference champion and second in Southern California, will lead the women's team, and Giovanni Perezchica, also a conference champion and sixth in SoCal, will lead the men.

Grimes, a freshman at BC, was a Central Section champion while at Centennial High and has the lead-

ership skills it takes to be a champion.

"Brittany pushes everybody harder," said Pam Kelly, BC cross-country coach. "She works hard, and the other girls know they have to work hard to place in the meets. As a team we need everyone, it's a team sport."

Grimes just missed winning the SoCal championship as she finished second with a time of 16 minutes, 8 seconds. The winner was Ladi Valdez of Orange Coast College with a time of 16:04. Grimes' finish helped lead the women's team to an overall eighth-place finish, qualifying them for the state meet. The finish

was also the best for a BC female runner in SoCal or state.

The 18-year old runner said that adrenaline is the thing that pumps her up for a meet.

"I think that when the races come, my adrenaline level is pumped," Grimes said. "I love the adrenaline rush, and it helps me run."

Along with a GPA of 3.0, adrenaline may be very effective in what Grimes wants to do in life, which includes possible employment in the criminal justice department.

"I think the Highway Patrol is something I would like to do," she said. "I went on a ride-a-long, and I liked it."

The women's team, led by Grimes, will have a solid chance at a top 10 finish in the state because of a supporting cast that includes top 10 finishers in the WSC as well. Jodi Calderon finished sixth and Erica Silva finished seventh in the WSC. Other SoCal finishers who will participate in the state meet are: Stacy Edwards, Alexis Vasquez, Bethany Lopez and Valerie Taylor.

"Grimes is our No. 1 runner," Kelly said. "But it's important that we give her some people to back her up. We have some solid sophomores that have placed in the conference to help lead the team. See GRIMES, Page 7

Don Clark hired as new BC public information officer

Former KBAK-TV anchor trades life in front of the camera for college communications.

By ELADIO BORADILLA
Rip staff writer

In the past, you could see Don Clark on TV. Now, you can see him face to face just about any time in his new office in the Bakersfield College Administration Building.

The former KBAK-TV anchor is now BC public information officer. He replaces Juan Gutierrez, who took a similar job at Pasadena City College in October.

Clark is all smiles even after losing his job and going through a difficult change, but he said he has no regrets, and looks forward to his future at BC.

"I got fired," said Clark of his position at the TV station. "My boss told me it was because of the budget crunch."

He needed a job and he got the best

he could have expected, he said. Clark said he is enjoying his new job, and doesn't miss being in front of a camera.

"Colleges are forward looking, everyone is really smart," he said. "It's really intellectually stimulating, and it's nice to get in touch with so much wisdom."

Walter Howald, executive director of BC's Institutional Development and Foundation or "the boss" to Clark said he's happy with his choice.

"I like my new employee," Howald said. Clark quickly shot back: "And I like the guy who hired me."

"We are back-to-back warriors for the advancement of BC," Clark said. The former TV man said he has found his experience at BC refreshing.

"When you think about it, what I did as an anchor was sit and talk to a piece of glass," he said. "Here, I have 15,000 people I can talk to face to face. And I can listen, not just talk."

Clark said he is still learning his duties and getting acquainted with his new job. So far, he has written six articles for the BC newsletter, The Source, and has interviewed several retiring professors.

Clark is excited about having his son, Josh, joining him at BC next semester, when he will take a few courses at BC.



Clark

OPINION

Bush: strong leader or stubborn ideologue?

Steady leadership will keep U.S. secure, economy growing

By ELADIO BOBADILLA
Rip staff writer

America has spoken indeed. A majority of Americans gave President Bush the second term his father never got, and it's not difficult to see why.

First of all, we are fighting World War III, and Americans understand that we need a commander-in-chief who is not afraid to bring the fight to the enemy in order to prevent mass civilian casualties here at home.

In hindsight, the decision to attack Iraq was based on flawed intelligence and an unprecedented doctrine of preemption. But the facts today show that although we were wrong about weapons of mass destruction, we inadvertently found a vast network of terrorists led by Jordanian terrorist mastermind Abu Musab al-Zarqawi. As horrific as the situation in Iraq is, we should be glad that our courageous troops are fighting them there, so we don't have to face them at home. The hunt for Osama bin Laden continues, and it is my belief that we will capture or kill him eventually.

President Bush is despised by many for seeing the world as black and white, something that arguably can be attributed to his faith. He sees the current worldwide fight against an extremist Muslim insurgency as good vs. evil, and liberals tend to find this view simplistic and unapologetic. That's because intellectual elitists have trouble seeing black and white. To them, everything is gray.

The Michael Moores and Janeane Garofalos of the world like to think that our nation does horrific things, that we seldom do good in the world, and that extremist Muslims have their reasons for wanting to kill us. But did Hitler have a good reason for killing six million Jews? Was World War II not good vs. evil? These liberal nuts like to analyze things so much, that they are blinded by the facts.

On the home front, we are doing better. President Bush's tax cuts have helped the economy. Aside from the brutal blow of 9/11, President Bush had to face a recession he inherited from the 2000 technology bubble burst. The tax cuts prevented a deeper recession and helped encourage spending. If anything, the tax cuts should have been bigger, and should now be made permanent as the president has suggested.

Edward Prescott, Nobel Prize winner in economics, said recently that Bush's tax cuts were too small. "Tax rates were not cut enough," he said. What many of those who attack Bush's so-called "tax cuts for the rich" is that "the rich" includes many small business owners who are taxed at the individual level. Those business owners are the driving force behind the job market, and tax cuts encourage hiring.

On social issues, America was heard loud and clear. Eleven states in the nation had ballot initiatives to amend their constitutions in order to preserve the institution of marriage as that of "one man and one woman." All 11 states passed those initiatives. The fact is, Americans don't want our traditional and sacred institutions redefined. We are a tolerant people, but lines must be drawn. The Democrats, particularly in Massachusetts and California, made a huge mistake by pushing gay marriage, particularly by doing it through judges rather than through the legislative process. They paid a price by energizing Bush's conservative base.

On abortion, the left also made crucial mistakes. With abortion already legal, some liberals openly complained about the possibility of Roe v. Wade being overturned, with nothing suggesting that was true. Cameron Diaz, appearing on Oprah, told the audience that "if you think rape should be legal, then don't vote." She was clearly taking a shot at the president, who is against abortion, but has never hinted he would seek to overturn the law. Diaz continued: "But if you think that you have a right to your body, and you have a right to say what happens to you and fight off that danger of losing that, then you should vote." This less-than-subtle and clearly baseless attack on the president no doubt turned off everyday Americans. We don't need Hollywood movie stars telling us how to vote.

President Bush stayed cool even under all the attacks on his leadership, his character and even his intelligence. He instead told us what he meant, and meant what he told us, even when he knew many would not like what he had to say. That's why he won, and that's why I support him.

Stop partisan hackery, start getting things done

DANIELLA WILLIAMS
Opinion Editor

With the end of the 2004 presidential elections comes the inevitable talk of ending the rift between the Democratic and Republican parties.

Let's speed up the House and Senate debates over bills by using the cage-match style arena. Man to man (or woman) bare-knuckle brawling over tax issues... It will be a whole new take on infotainment. I mean, who really watches C-Span besides the elderly and the socially inept? If we televise the cage matches in a

making a big show of trying to get along, everyone still hates each other. It's a sick game of Spy vs. Spy. I've had enough of the way our government is handling itself. We are so polarized on central issues, we might as well engage in open warfare.

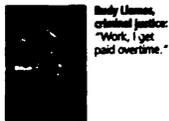
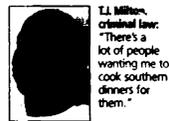
Let's speed up the House and Senate debates over bills by using the cage-match style arena. Man to man (or woman) bare-knuckle brawling over tax issues. It will be a whole new take on infotainment. I mean, who really watches C-Span besides the elderly and the socially inept? If we televise the cage matches in a

service located at 310 South State Street in St. Ignace, Mich., at the Bob Davis Post Office Building and took 16 meetings over the course of nearly one year to be passed. The cage fight system would streamline this. As soon as the opposing opinion hits the mat, you know if the motion is passed or not.

A closer look at H.R.2577 shows it to be a movement to "designate the facility of the United States Postal

'GADE FEEDBACK

What are you doing during the Thanksgiving holiday?



Compiled by Victor Garcia / The Rip

THE RENEGADE RIP

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 Newsroom: Campus Center 1
 Phone: (661) 395-4324
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 E-mail: ripmail@bc.cc.ca.us
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Winner of the 2003 JACC Pacemaker Award

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The newspaper is published under the auspices of the Kern Community College District Board of Trustees, but sole responsibility for its content rests with student editors.

The Rip is a member of the Journalism Association of Community Colleges and the California Newspaper Publishers Association.

NEWS



PHOTOS BY MARILYN WHIPKEY / THE RIP

Parade of Honor

The Veterans Day Parade began at 8 a.m. on Truxtun Avenue with the ringing of the Bakersfield Liberty Bell by Grand Marshal Dick Rutan.

After the parade, a lunch was held at the American Legion Hall followed by the handing out of awards to the best parade entries.

The grand prize award went to VFW Post 97, "Present and Past," which was accepted by Sue Newton. "We now have won three years in a row," Newton said.



Top, Lacey Keith, 17, and Keighly Hill, 17, represented the California High School Rodeo Association at the parade.

Left, Payton Carter, 2, helps hand out trophies at the Veterans Day Parade ceremony, after a luncheon at the American Legion Hall.

Night of Culture to be celebrated

By JEANETTE BORLAND
Rip staff writer

An event called Noche de Cultura, which will celebrate the Mexican American and Native American heritages, is being held for the first time on the Bakersfield College campus. The event is scheduled at 6 tonight in the Fine Arts Building, Room 30.

The cost for the event, put on by Mecha, is \$5 in advance or \$7 at the door. It is open to the public.

Noche de Cultura will have several speakers that contribute to the two cultures. The speakers include Bakersfield College instructors Robert Torres and Ishmael Kimbrough, both

of whom teach history. There will be a blessing, given by Ray Sierra, to begin the event.

Other highlights will be provided by Native American and Mexican American dancers, and the West Coast Drum Group. Artifacts will be displayed throughout, and Mexican food will be served.

"It is the mother of all events," said Jess Ibarra, director of the event. Ibarra is a liberal arts studies and chino studies major. "It is going to be deep and very spiritual."

Mecha has raised more than \$1,000 to make this event happen, according to Ibarra. For more information, contact Jo Ann Acosta at 395-4360.

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The number of job possibilities available varies each semester. For more information please contact Liz at 395-4537 or Job Placement at 395-4452.

STIPENDS: SGA officers are compensated

Continued from Page 1

"They can say what they're going to do, but I don't trust them."

"What's the point of going to college? You can just run for student government. It's taking the whole incentive away. So, I don't think they should (get stipends). This is something voluntary. It's like going for a club," said Christopher Anfofo, a biology major.

Two students said that the money should be going back to the college itself.

Megan Songer, 24, a psychology major, also said that it should be on a voluntary basis.

"If they want to help the school, they should volunteer so the funds could be used for the school," she said.

"I think they should do it because they want to, not 'cause they're getting paid and maybe the extra money that they use to pay (themselves) could be used toward benefiting the school ... and not just the leaders," said Amy Menzies, 18, undeclared.

Cheryl Davis, 20, undeclared, said she does not think SGA officers should receive stipends because "it's not like a real job."

A minority of students interviewed said that they should receive the stipends.

"Yeah, they do work. Well, it depends on how much work they do. If they do a lot of work, they should be compensated for it," said Joseph Sandoval, 25, liberal arts.

"Yeah, sure. They're doing a job," said Michelle Hernandez, 20, sign language.

Ellerson said that SGA is working for the students at BC. "The first thing that will really affect the students here at Bakersfield College is the reworking of the Student Center," he said.

"We are taking bids right now to develop a canopy system, one that will provide shade and a nice atmosphere for students to congregate out there, which they already do." He said that there are other items

that SGA is working on.

"The other items that we are doing behind the scenes, which students don't really see and some don't really care about, and that is being involved in all the campus wide committees," he said.

According to the section about BC's SGA on the American Student Government Association Web site, www.asgonline.com, some of their accomplishments have been making student government office improvements, joining state affiliations and associations, and hosting a successful retreat.

One of their main goals listed is amending their constitution, which has already happened.

History professor David Rosales, dean of students in the late '70s and

early '80s and student government adviser, started giving student government officers stipends back then.

"The idea of stipends was a way to get commitment out of students," he said.

He said that nearly half their budget then wasn't devoted to stipends.

"If my memory serves me correctly, it was just a portion of our budget at the time."

"I think the student body president in those days received \$50 or \$55 a week," Rosales said.

The other two officers received \$25 a week.

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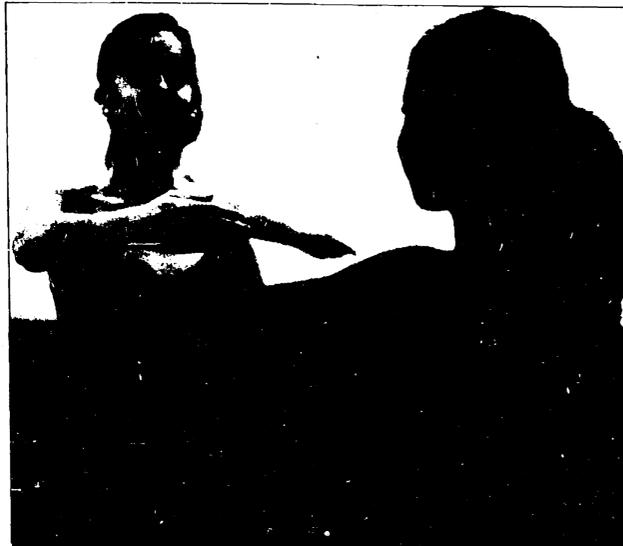
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CAMPUS

Grace through pain and bruises



Lauren Saldubehere, left, instructs one of her students, Haley Amarikwa, during their dance class at the Civic Dance Center. Saldubehere, who is a Bakersfield College student, has been dancing since she was 5 years old.

Editor's note: This article is part of a series spotlighting BC and local artists who are talented but "unsigned" to any major company.

By PHILIP G. KOPP
Rip staff writer

Blood, bruises and broken spirits are something to be expected with any major athlete, but it is also too familiar for any serious ballet dancer. The dancer must deal with the demands of perfect poise and structure along with constant scrutiny of not being able to show anguish while performing.

Lauren Saldubehere not only deals with this struggle, she embraces it. At age 5, Saldubehere began taking dance classes at The Civic Dance Center in Bakersfield, where she now teaches. In 1992, she got her first role as a Bon-Bon girl in the "Nutcracker," a ballet performed every winter by the dance center. Saldubehere has been part of it every year since her debut.

It was there that Saldubehere developed a passion for dancing that would lead her across the country.

In 1998, Saldubehere started eighth grade with a serious view on dance. She began studying intensively, and in 2001 traveled to Pennsylvania to study at The Pittsburgh Ballet.

"It's like athletic training,"

Saldubehere said. "You learn how to get into the company and get to meet all different types of people: from around the country who all share a love for dance and ballet."

Pittsburgh led to other dance programs in cities such as Philadelphia and New York, each one lasting a number of weeks with strict work led by professionals in the business. At the end of the programs, the students' work was displayed in a performance, which put their talents to the test.

"You can't show emotion, pain or agony while you're performing," Saldubehere said. "You're playing a character, and you have to be serious. It's an extremely hard sport."

Pain was something Saldubehere was all too familiar with as she spoke about losing a toenail during a rehearsal, but it was just a fragment of the agony she was about to face.

After auditioning for universities and Juilliard, placing in the top five in California alone, Saldubehere began attending Bakersfield College where, about two months ago, she faced a nightmare every dancer dreads. As she woke up for school one morning, she stepped on a shoe getting out of bed, lost her balance and tore a ligament in her left ankle. She recalled hearing a ripping sound as she fell to the floor, followed by extreme pain and the thought that she may never dance again.

"The doctors said it would have been better if I had just broken my ankle," Saldubehere said. "There

were so many bad thoughts going through my head that this would affect what I planned on doing for the rest of my life."

Saldubehere was wheelchair bound for a week but determined to not let this end her dream after she had worked so hard to get this far. With the help of physical therapy two hours a day, three days a week, she started to slowly regain her balance. Swimming and the Pilates exercise program played a helpful part in getting her back in good condition. After going from a wheelchair to crutches, she was able to get back on stage and back to work.

"What kept me going was my love of performing," she said. "Once you have it in you, it doesn't go away."

She is now working on "The Nutcracker," which is scheduled to start showing in December at The Bakersfield Convention Center with music by The Bakersfield Symphony Orchestra. Saldubehere, glad to be teaching ballet again and getting ready to dance in the upcoming performance, plans to attend UC Irvine to continue her degree in dance. She will then move to New York to dance with a ballet company, and then return to the West Coast to teach dance. She hopes to open her own studio.

"It's a cultural experience that everyone should do," Saldubehere said. "You'll have your ups and downs, but if you love it then do it. If you want it bad enough, you have to make it happen and always look at the bigger picture."

BC BRAINS

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

What are you doing when you skulk?



Jake Davis, culinary arts: "If I had someone to sneak around with, I'd skulk."



Tim Moreno, adaptive PE: "Mischievous, sneaky."



Stan Moore, physical education: "I'm not sure about the definition."



Larnell King, administration of justice: "It's when you sneak around, like stalkers."



Grace McCullahan, physical education: "Sneakin'."



Kevin Bartholomew, physical education: "I've never even heard of that word."

Compiled by Mariyn Whipkey / The Rip

Correct answer: One who hides, lurks, or practices evasion.

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FEATURES

Yanni spreads mellow vibe



Photos by Ian Hamilton / The Rip

Left: Yanni performs during his show at the Bakersfield Centennial Garden Wednesday night.

Below: The internationally recognized Yanni plays several instruments at the same time.



After making a stop in Fresno, Yanni came to Bakersfield on Nov. 17 and performed at Centennial Garden as part of his "Yanni: Live" tour. With his usual cool flair, he performed on the piano and keyboards with his orchestra.



Les Robison, a "wood turner," examines one of his bowls on display at the East Hills Mall gallery.

JULIANNA CRISALLI / THE RIP

Wood to pottery: BC instructor turns bark into works of art

By JULIANNA CRISALLI
Features Editor

After 33 years of working as a marketing representative for IBM and Xerox, Les Robison decided to ditch the suit and fashion a tree.

After he retired, Robison, now 69, decided to turn his hobby of "wood turning" into a career. Like a painter to his canvas, he can look at an old discarded piece of wood and see a masterpiece. After carefully examining the slice of wood, he decides whether it will be a bowl, cup, plate or vase then proceeds to "turn" the wood. "Wood turning" begins by curving a block of wood into the desired shape. Then the wood is worked on the lathe, molding and softening it into a smooth finished piece.

"Some of it is tricks of the trade," Robison said. "When they are done, they are using it how to use certain pieces."

Then there's design. When you look at the piece of wood, what do you see?

He receives wood from local orchards, overseas and even from eBay. Unlike typical smooth, natural wooden art pieces, Robison works extra hard to preserve the knots and fissures in the wood, making each piece unique. He attempts to preserve all the natural occurrences in the wood and keep its individual uniqueness intact.

"It is more artistic to show the way nature set the wood up. If it has a crack or a void, I try to highlight that," Robison said.

He is currently working out of his workshop at Shafter Airport and has his work on display and for sale at several beauty salons, home decoration stores, framing shops and at the Bakersfield Art Association gallery.

His work is priced from \$40 to \$250.

"I think his work is very good," said Dennis Copenhaver, a wood carver whose own work is also on display at East Hills Mall gallery. "His work is different than mine. He's a turner, and I'm a carver. He does a really good job."

Besides selling his creations, Robison is a part-time instructor at BC who teaches furniture making. However, for the past semester, the class has not been active because of remodeling in the Applied Arts Building. He hopes to continue teaching at BC during the spring semester.

"My favorite part of teaching is watching the students make progress," Robison said. "They start out maybe being afraid of the table saw. When they are done, they are using it the way they are supposed to."



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From left to right: Don Cheadle, Woody Harrelson, Pierce Brosnan and Salma Hayek in the film "After the Sunset."

'After the Sunset': a message of strength

By JEANETTE BORLAND
Rip staff writer

They say, "A diamond is a girl's best friend" but not in the movie "After the Sunset." It is the man that wants the diamond to be his best friend.

"After the Sunset" was entertaining, funny, sexy and had an ending that you won't see coming. I liked this movie because of that ending. It was not your typical diamond thief conclusion, and it surprised me.

Stealing is an art and can require some smarts, but even the great thieves can be outsmarted.

The movie is set in the beautiful islands of the Caribbean, and master thief Max Burdett (Pierce Brosnan) is at the top of his game looking to steal the biggest diamond, which is located on a cruise ship that has docked for a few days.

An FBI agent, Stan, played by Woody Harrelson, watches his ev-

ery move, including following him to the islands. Also watching his moves is girlfriend Lola, played by Salma Hayek, who thought that she was there to "retire" and live happily ever after.

A game of cat and mouse is played but also a friendship forms between Stan and Max. They go fishing together, catch a little shark and joke about who is going to touch it to see if it is still alive.

Max eventually is forced to stay with Stan because Lola has kicked out of the house. Stan finds a love interest with the local cop, and a diamond is stolen.

As I watch movies, I always try to look for a message that might be hidden for us to walk away with. "After the Sunset" did have a message: A message of, if we are not careful we could lose our biggest "jewels" in life.

Temptation is strong and giving into it may show a sign of weakness but to resist shows great strength.

Temptation is strong and giving into it may show a sign of weakness but to resist shows great strength. I walked away thinking what "jewels" are important to me and not to lose sight of that.

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Actors study characters firsthand

Before the performance, "Bordertown" actors experienced crossing the border on their creative trip to Tijuana.

By BARRY LIPSON
Rip staff writer

"Take a trip to the Journeyless Cosmos where there are no borders." This is a quote from the show, "Bordertown," a series of often humorous vignettes with racial and life-style prejudice as the catalyst.

PLAY REVIEW

The play, which continues at 8 p.m. tonight and Saturday at BC's indoor theater, is set at the California-Tijuana border. The show started with an acting troupe being stopped at the border by a vigilante posing as a border guard. Other highlights included sailors performing a well-choreographed dance routine to Frank Sinatra's "South of the Border," ending with a surprise twist of the Village People's "In the

Navy." A very funny bit had Shamu the Killer Whale being examined by a psychiatrist. Referring to the city of San Diego, Shamu stated, "I hate being the poster boy for this town."

The amazing performances were made all the more amazing by the fact that they were all performed by only five actors, all male, portraying multiple roles, including females.

I asked actor Keith Silvas how he got into each character, and he said, "After a while it becomes a routine. At first it seemed a bit overwhelming. So I started looking at each character one by one and thinking only about that character and nothing else."

Director Kimberly Chin wanted these talented performers to get a real understanding of their characters firsthand, so she took them on a journey to the coastal town of San Diego, the affluent La Jolla and then they crossed the border into Tijuana.

Phillip Velasquez said of the experience, "At first I didn't want to go. I thought it was unfair how easy it was for us to cross the border, and then see how difficult it was to come back."

He went on to say "We were ques-

tioned, where are you from, where were you born, what nationality are you?" Vincent Cruz added, "I saw this guy talking to his daughters through the fence, and I started to feel this sort of empathy for them."

In the downtown area of San Diego, they stopped off at the Chinese Historical Society Museum where Paul Nix got a reality check about his character, "Tom the Chinese Gaffer." Nix said of the character: "He is a real person. It is interesting to see that so much was taken from reality in a piece like this."

Chin said the curator gave Nix the actual home phone number of the real "Tom."

Chin also said, "I hope they learned about themselves. Whenever you go outside of your area, your comfort zone especially, you learn a lot about yourselves, about society and humanity."

"Bordertown" was written by Culture Clash, an acting troupe founded on Cinco De Mayo 1984 in San Francisco's Mission District. "Bordertown" is thought provoking, funny and well worth the time invested.



CHRIS WONG/THE RIP
Phillip Velasquez plays a border guard in the BC play.

'GTA: San Andreas' gives freedom to roam three whole cities

By BARRY LIPSON
Rip staff writer

What up my peeps? Time to gather around the TV because there is fun to be had for your whole dysfunctional family when the Grove Street OG's attempt to take back the hood.

GAME REVIEW

It has been two long years since "Grand Theft Auto: Vice City" and the gang at Rockstar have put this time to good use creating the everlasting gobstopper of video games, "GTA: San Andreas" is so filled with things to do and see that you may never

reach the elusive 100 percent completion rating.

Everything you've come to expect from the GTA franchise is here and more. The only thing missing are the health spheres. They have been replaced by the characters' need to eat.

Like "The Sims" on crack, you have to manage your character's health stats, such as fat and muscle, and you must maintain respect from the guys and give off sex appeal for the ladies. The working girls are still here to lend a hand; however, there is an aspect of the game that will have the girls giving money to you as well.

There are mini-games galore such as card games, billiards and going out on dates. Legitimate ones, believe it or not. The music is just as varied as

usual. There is nothing more surreal than performing drive-bys while listening to "Freebird" or "Horse With No Name." You are also responsible for recruiting gang members to join your crew.

Shooting crack dealers can earn you an easy \$2,000. The best thing about it is you can wait until the paramedics come to regenerate them and kill them again.

Like Vice City, you can purchase properties. Unlike Vice City, most properties are now accessible. For example, with The Pig Pen Strip Club, you can enter, throw a \$20 bill at the girl on stage or enter the back room and invest Benjamin on a lap dance. I'd suggest saving before doing this because spending the cash

does nothing for your game, only your amusement.

The conversations may well be the biggest controversy surrounding this game. Not since my last family reunion have I heard so many four-lettered expletives. However, as I said, there is fun to be had for the entire family. I just taught my next-door neighbor Beth how to play so she could bond with her son.

"GTA: San Andreas" may well be the most controversial in-depth video game ever. So put down the schoolbooks and pick up your game controller and help C.J. witness the death of his brother and mother. We'll be right with you did.



CHRIS WONG/THE RIP
College of the Sequoias' Dan Apollinario tries to block the layup from Bakersfield College's Marquintia Davis at the game on Nov. 12 at BC.

Women's team starts fast; men lose opener

By LEANNE GAVE
Rip staff writer

Bakersfield College's women's basketball team improved to 4-1 Tuesday by beating Monroeville 74-69.

The Renegades trailed in the first half but took the lead early in the second half and didn't relinquish it. Ashley Nichols scored 23 points and Nicole Goss had 21 for BC. Teammate Ashlee Klingenberg scored all nine of her points on 3-pointers, and Darlene Alingbue had 19 rebounds.

The women posted a season-opening win over Allan Hancock, 77-38, on Nov. 10. BC held Hancock scoreless for the first 11 minutes of the second half, and the "Gades" opened 28 steals.

The "Gades" also participated in the San Diego Mean tournament Nov. 12-13 where they beat a tough Pal-

meron team 66-63.

In the victory over Fullerton, it took an overall team effort, and the "Gades" played solid defense down the stretch to get the win. Goss scored 26 points and dominated the boards as she had 10 rebounds and blocked six shots to lead BC.

Goss also played solid defense as she stole the ball seven times. Nichols contributed to the victory with 10 rebounds and four assists. Klingenberg and Taylor McQuinn made clutch free throws when it counted, and Alingbue had five of BC's 14 blocked shots.

The "Gades" lost the final game of the tournament to San Diego Mesa 77-74. The men didn't fair so well in their season opener Nov. 12 as they lost to College of the Sequoias 82-78. Marquintia Davis scored 26 points and Tyler Monk added 21 for BC.

Women's soccer team wins 1-0 but fails to make the playoffs

By DENNIS MAHAN
Sports Editor

The Bakersfield College women's soccer team shut out Santa Monica City College 1-0 in the rain in its last game of the season Tuesday but just missed the playoffs.

ROUNDUP

Ashley Pappas fed Trini Aguilera in the first half for the only goal of the game, and BC held on to win the non-conference match.

The "Gades had a close call with five minutes left in the match when BC committed a foul right in front of its own net. A penalty kick was awarded to Santa Monica's Miquela Martinez, but she was denied by BC goalkeeper Karla Poeschel who made a diving save. BC finished the season 7-6-5 overall and 4-3-3 in the Western State Conference.

On Nov. 9, the "Gades swept Glendale College 30-15, 30-18, 30-24 at the Gil Bishop Sports Arena. Leading the Renegades was Doneice Woody with 14 kills, while Toni Alvarez added 12 kills and three aces. Vanessa Kurfuss contributed with three kills and seven digs.

The "Gades overall record is 9-11 and 2-6 in the Western State Conference, and they play their last game of the season at Los Angeles Pierce College at 7 p.m. today.

ished with nine digs and six kills. Christina Macias contributed with six kills and Fallyn Lozano added seven digs.

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GRIMES: Men's, women's teams qualify for state championship meet

Continued from Page 1

also. Perezchica, a sophomore will pace the men in the state meet.

"Just like Brittany, Giovanni is one of the best runners in the state," said Bob Covey, the men's cross country coach.

Perezchica also finished the season as a WSC champion and placed sixth at the SoCal championships at San Luis Obispo.

His finish helped the men to a 12th place finish, earning the team a trip to the state meet.

Perezchica covered the 4.2-mile course in 22 minutes and 53 seconds.

Other SoCal finishers from BC who will compete for the men in the state meet will be Jason Lewis, Carlos Cabanillas, Steven Cavazos and Oswaldo Velasquez.

With the leadership of Perezchica, the men should finish in the top 20 in the state.

"This is the first time in four or five years that we have had a WSC champion in cross-country," Covey said. "He is an outstanding leader and a very good runner."

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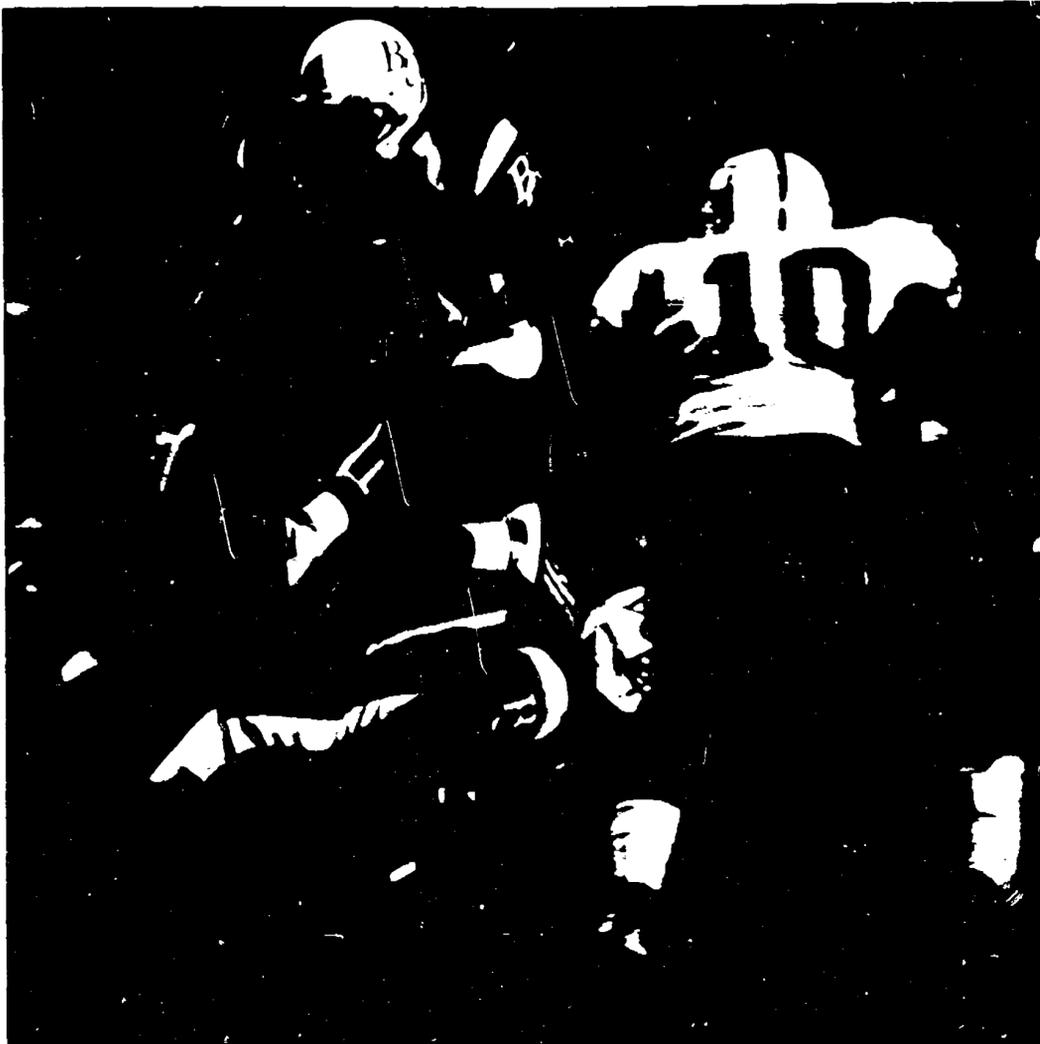
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Playoff hopes nixed



CHRIS WONG / THE RIP

Jeremy Miller catches a pass during Saturday's home game.



DENNIS MAHAN / THE RIP

BC running back Anthony Stewart hurdles over offensive tackle Michael Frierson, while Ventura defender Rafael Horton looks to make the tackle.

BC set to meet Fullerton in first Golden Empire Bowl

By LEANNE CAVE
Rip staff writer

The Bakersfield College Renegades (7-3) will host the Fullerton College Titans (6-4) in the inaugural Golden Empire Bowl at 3 p.m. Saturday. The 'Gades finished seventh in the final Commission on Athletics Coaches poll but missed the state playoffs because of two major upsets among the five conference champions.

The five Southern California conference and division champions receiving automatic bids to the playoffs have to be ranked in the top eight in the final COA coaches poll when the last regular season games are played. That didn't happen.

"We wish we would have made the playoffs," said Jeff Chudy, BC head football coach. "We didn't play well enough against Los Angeles Pierce or Canyons to get the wins we needed to make the playoffs. But we're 7-3 and excited to play in the Golden Empire Bowl, and we hope for a good crowd."

BC (ranked ninth as of Nov. 13) had a chance to make the playoffs when 20th-ranked Riverside knocked off eighth-ranked Fullerton. The Fullerton loss put BC ahead of the Titans in the poll, giving the 'Gades that final chance at a playoff berth. But the chance slipped away when 10th-ranked Long Beach City (6-4), a team that the 'Gades beat in their season opener, defeated sixth-ranked Mount San Antonio (8-2) and claimed a share of the Mission Conference American Division.

By beating Mt. SAC, Long Beach won the tiebreaker to take the division automatic bid. The teams ahead of BC in the poll, No. 3 Chaffey (9-1), No. 5 El Camino (8-2) and No. 6 Mt. SAC clinched the final three at-large berths, leaving the 'Gades out of the playoffs but not out of a bowl game.

"We haven't been in a bowl game in two years," said Jan Stuebbe, BC athletic director. "We are real pleased with the progress that the football program has made this season. We will be playing an old rival, Fullerton, on Saturday. It should be a quality day and game and a lot of fun."

The 'Gades secured the bowl game with a 24-17 victory over the visiting Ventura Pirates on Nov. 13. It looked as though BC was going to struggle offensively, as it did against its last two opponents, Los Angeles Pierce and College of the Canyons. The Pirates took a 7-0 lead in the first quarter when Ventura quarterback Jimmie Griffin tossed an 18-yard touchdown pass to a wide-open Nick Pierson and kicker Jonathon Johnson added the extra point.

Then the BC offense, which hasn't produced a touchdown in 10 quarters, assaulted the Pirates with a bal-

anced attack that produced 21 points in the second quarter. On the day, the 'Gades amassed 399 yards in total yards. Quarterback Thomas Peregrin completed 11 of 28 passes for 223 yards and two touchdowns, and tailbacks Rickey Herod and Le'Andre Matthews combined for 168 yards and one touchdown on the ground.

"It was one of our better team efforts since the Citrus game," Chudy said. "It's the best we've blocked to protect the quarterback. Overall, we played with a lot of enthusiasm and by far with the best energy since the Citrus game."

The first score came on a 38-yard bomb from Peregrin to receiver Jeremy Miller. The touchdown catch by Miller was especially sweet for the

'Gades because the freshman made an awesome catch over the Ventura defender for the score and it was his first catch in his first game of the season. Bryan Sullivan kicked the extra point and the score was tied 7-7.

"Jeremy Miller hadn't played a game this season," Chudy said.

"He comes in, steps up to the plate and makes a great catch to put points on the board."

The next scoring opportunity was set up by the BC defense as defensive back Brian Cooper intercepted a Jimmie Griffin pass and returned deep into Pirates territory.

"I watched the films and the routes they run," Cooper said. "The quarterback didn't disguise the plays, I was reading his eyes and he overthrew the receiver, and I stepped up and got the pick."

The interception was a big help to the offense as it didn't take long for Matthews to run to the end zone from 4 yards out, Sullivan's extra point was good, and the 'Gades had their first lead in seven quarters of football, 14-7.

Taking the lead was one of the things that seemed to motivate the 'Gades offensively as well as defensively. But another motivational factor was the stellar play of freshman receiver Tajiddin Smith. Smith caught a 37-yard touchdown pass from Peregrin to help put the 'Gades up 21-7, caught six passes total for 118 yards and made key blocks that helped get the offense down the field and fire up the team as a whole.

"Tajiddin made a great block down the sideline on a defender that fired everybody up," Chudy said. "He also made catches and blocks that kept the chains moving."

Moving the chains was also important for the offense to do because the defense had spent much of the last 10 quarters on the field.

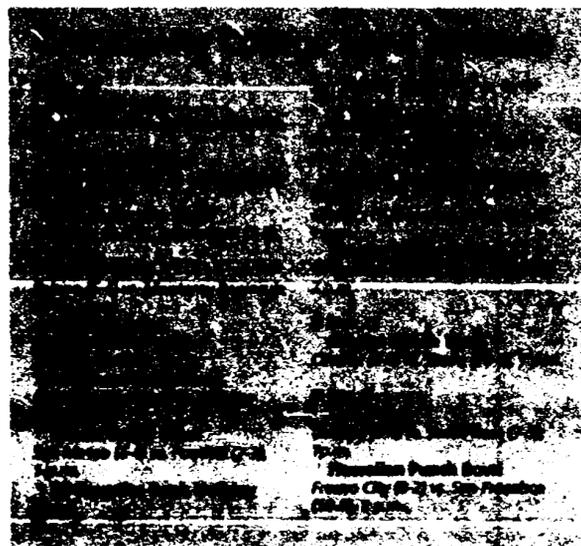
"We felt like we needed to move the ball and give the defense a rest," Smith said. "We owed it to the defense to put at least 14 to 16 points on the board in the second quarter."

The only score in the third quarter



DENNIS MAHAN / THE RIP

BC wide receiver Tajiddin Smith outruns Ventura defensive back Brian Walker after catching a pass during the 'Gades last regular season game.



was a 35-yard field goal by Ventura kicker Johnson, to bring the Pirates within 21-10.

The 'Gades mounted a drive that elapsed the rest of the third quarter before settling for a 30-yard field goal by Sullivan early in the fourth to make the score 24-10.

It looked as though the game was well in hand for BC, but after the

field goal things got a little testy for the 'Gades.

This was evident by the way Ventura marched down the field at will and scored on a 2-yard touchdown pass from Griffin to receiver Chris Brewer. The kick was good by Johnson, and the Pirates trailed 24-17 with 4:48 remaining.

On the ensuing kick-off the Pirates,

attempted an onside kick, but the attempt was to no avail for Ventura as Anthony Stewart of BC recovered at the Ventura 48-yard line.

After a three-and-out series by the BC offense, the Pirates had enough time (3:06) to come back and tie the score. But the BC defense once again passed the final test.

On first down, Kenneth Atkins sacked Griffin; on second down, incomplete pass; on third down, incomplete pass; fourth down.... Ventura punts.

"Everybody did everything right when it counted," Cooper said. "Collectively we played four quarters like we know how to do. We've been practicing hard to get it right."

The game in which little went right for the 'Gades was on Nov. 6, against College of the Canyons at Memorial Stadium. Canyons, unbeaten and ranked No. 2 in the Southern California coaches poll and No. 3 in the state, shut out BC 16-0.

The Cougars wasted little time in establishing why they are unbeaten and highly ranked. It took less than 30 seconds to score when tight end Jason Lance caught a lateral from quarterback Cory Miles and tossed a beautifully executed 69-yard half-pass to receiver Billy Ormahan. Jason Tompkins added the extra point, and Canyons led 7-0.

From that point on it was a defensive struggle as the only points allowed were three Tompkins field goals set up by BC fumbles.

The Cougars took a 13-0 lead in the second quarter, when Tompkins kicked two of the three field goals from 45 and 36 yards out.

If there was a bright spot for the 'Gades, it was the play of a tough determined defense that prevented one of the best teams in the state from running up the score.

A Canyons offense that had scored more than 30 points against most of its opponents this season, managed only three more points, a 36-yard field goal by Tompkins in the fourth quarter making the final score 16-0.

The 'Gades will need another valiant effort Saturday when they face a talented and physical team, the Fullerton Titans. The Titans will bring two talented tailbacks that will give the 'Gade defense all they can handle. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$3 for children.

"Next to Canyons, Fullerton is the best team we will face," Chudy said. "We're excited to play in the Golden Empire Bowl and play against Fullerton. We're proud of our sophomores in the way they have showed leadership, work ethic and made good decisions in key situations this season to get us to this point."