

# THE RENEGADE RIP

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Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger arrives in Bakersfield on March 2 to gather signatures for his reform plans.

## Arnold is back on a mission

By VICTOR GARCIA  
Sports Editor

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger is saying *hasta la vista* to the legislature and is taking his reform plans to the people.

In part of his statewide tour, Schwarzenegger stopped at the Mexicali West restaurant on California Avenue, March 2.

Kevin McDermott, chairman of the Kern County Republican party, said that the governor outlined four reforms in the State of the State address. He said Schwarzenegger's reforms are spending, pension, education and redistricting. The governor needs at least 600,000 signatures to get his reform plans on the ballot for a vote.

"He told the legislature, discuss this or I am going to have to go to the people. They refused to even begin discussions, that's how arrogant the legislature has gotten," said McDermott.

Schwarzenegger went to every table in the restaurant, handing out his "Reform California" fliers, shaking hands and cracking jokes.

"The special interest have the money, but the people have the numbers. This is just power," said Schwarzenegger. "I always, when I come to Bakersfield accomplish all my missions because Bakersfield is terrific. They have been such a great support system."

When asked by *The Rip* if his reform plan would help community colleges, Schwarzenegger said, "Absolutely, I love community colleges. I am a product of a community college."

The Bakersfield College Republicans were at the event gathering petitions for the governor's reforms. "The Bakersfield College Republicans are helping out collecting petitions and helping the governor express the concerns on why we need to move the state forward with reform agenda," said Vince Pierucci, chair of the BC Republicans.

Another member of the BC Republicans thought what the governor is doing is necessary for California.

"I thought (Schwarzenegger's visit) was impressive. I think he

See GOVERNOR, Page 12



Vince Pierucci, chair of the Bakersfield College Republicans, helped Schwarzenegger obtain signatures during his appearance at Mexicali West restaurant.

## SGA plans trip to Washington for conference

Student government leaders hope to learn new leadership skills and interact with key national figures.

By JOSHUA AYERS  
Rip staff writer

The Bakersfield College Student Government Association will be traveling to Washington, D.C., for the National Student Advocacy Conference March 18-22, marking the first time that a significant amount of the Student Representative Fee Fund will be used.

The Student Representation Fee was implemented for the first time at BC in the fall 2004 semester. The funds are accumulated by a \$1 charge per student per semester during registration but can be waived by completing a Request for Refund form in Business Services or Admissions and Records.

Legislation for the Student Representative Fee was passed in 1987 and delegated power to student governments at the community college level to call for the fee if two-thirds of the student government voted in favor.

"[The fee] can only be spent to train our student leaders to be-

come better advocates to the students and to more effectively represent the students in front of legislative bodies," said Dean of Students Don Turney. Turney said that there are extremely tight guidelines as to how and when the money is spent.

Section 76060.5 of the California Educational Code states: "The money collected pursuant to this section shall be expended to provide for the support of governmental affairs representatives who may be stating their positions and viewpoints before city, county and district governments, and before offices and agencies of the state government."

In other words the section states that the funds are to be used for student lobbying and training students to know how to lobby.

The section also says that the money brought in can only be used for

purposes stated in the Sec. 76060.5.

The cost for seven student government members and their adviser will be in the neighborhood of \$8,500, according to Turney, a lower figure than the \$10,000 amount projected at the Feb. 17 SGA meeting. The money will cover airfare, hotel accommodations, food and the entry fee into the contest.

"We haven't really 'dugged' into the Student Rep Fee because it's the first year it has been implemented," said SGA Vice President Prayas Patel.

The conference is specifically designed for community college students. While at the conference, SGA members will learn leadership skills and will have the opportunity to interact with United States senators and representatives such as Sen. Chuck Hagel (R-Neb.), Rep. George Miller (D-Calif.) and Rep. Howard McKeon (R-Calif.), as well as have the chance to hear speeches from key national figures such as U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings, former presidential candidate

Ralph Nader and possibly Sen. Ted Kennedy (D-Mass.).

Some of the topics covered at the conference will demonstrate and explain to SGA members how to successfully deal and im-

prove issues such as student budgets, Pell Grants, Work Study programs and single parents tax credit matters as well as how to organize grassroots campaigns to help re-authorize the Higher Education Act.

"This trip is going to really encourage us to work with the government, and specifically, know what the government does [and] how to best handle, and best work with the government," said Patel, who will be attending the conference. Patel also said that the students attending the conference would be required to take a final test. If the test is passed, then the students will receive accreditation as a student leader.

"It's just something that you can put on your resume if you want," Patel said referring to the student leader accreditation.

See TRIP, Page 12

"This trip is going to really going to encourage us to work with the government..."

— Prayas Patel,  
SGA vice president

## New BC president is ready to face future challenges

By XIMENA BENITEZ  
Rip staff writer

William Andrews, the newly elected president of Bakersfield College, ready and excited to begin his duties.

"I enjoy people," Andrews said. "I enjoy challenges. I enjoy trying to get people to work together, and community colleges make more of a difference in people from a lower level of higher education for sure. This is a wonderful place to be."

Andrews' main challenge as president is trying to provide as much access to students as possible.

"We never have enough money to offer what we have. Most community colleges in California are turning away students, and I know Bakersfield College is, too," he said. "But in addition to that, one of the things that I am going to be trying to figure out is how to convince students to take classes in the afternoon. For example, if in the afternoon we are only using half of the classrooms then our utilization ratio is not as high as it should be. And even if we need another building, we won't qualify for it for state funds."

Despite the fact that Andrews, 56, has

a busy schedule being a current president at Porterville College, he enjoys playing golf, exercising, reading and spending time with his family.

"I like to play golf, it's one of my favorite things," he said. "It takes my mind completely off work. I like to read, and I like to go walking. My wife and I would get our dog - named Sophie - and I'll spend time with family. The job tends to take a lot of time from family. You try to find time outside the job to kick back and relax. I typically start my day by half of hour of exercising. I need to do more of it."

Andrews has worked in a various jobs that enabled to gain sufficient experience to become a leader in different areas. He has been a high school teacher, joined the National Guard, worked as a Media Coordinator, Librarian, and held the position of president at Porterville College. He starts his position at BC on April 1. He was raised and born in a small farming town in Iowa that consisted of 20,000 residents. There he realized that farming was not for him, so he attended Marshall Community College, achieving his Associate Art degree in liberal arts. He then decided to attend

See PRESIDENT, Page 12

## Welch gives up Korn, finds Jesus



Brian Welch, former Korn guitarist, signs autographs at Valley Bible Fellowship after services on Feb. 27 where he spoke about his "new dedication to Christ."

Former guitarist for the Bakersfield band found religion after being invited to a church service by a friend.

By BARRY LIPSON  
Online Editor

Upon entering Valley Bible Fellowship church on Feb 27, it was apparent this was not to be an ordinary service.

CNN, MTV, local media as well as tattooed and pierced teenagers piled alongside the usual religious types to bear witness as Brian "Head" Welch, former guitar player for the rock band Korn, whose hits include "Freak on a Leash" and "Blind," made his official departure from the limelight.

Welch, who is from Bakersfield, quit the band in order to devote his life to religion after a friend invited him to a service two months ago.

"I can't go to church, I just drank a six pack and yelled at my wife. I thought there is no way I am going to church. Then I read the good book at home," Welch said.

Another reason for leaving the band was to set a better example for his daughter. He felt music videos were making him look bad, and he has since decided to dedicate his music to Jesus Christ.

Senior Pastor Ron Vietti mentioned what it was like when he had a meeting with Welch at Romano's Macaroni Grill. "People saw us there and were thinking, 'Pastor Vietti and Korn? We don't get it.' Now we are brothers."

Just before Welch appeared at the first service, a man standing in front of a cross with a cell phone made an announcement that the crowd was being watched in Las Vegas. The crowd cheered and raised hands in lieu of flicking lighters.

After welcoming Welch to thunderous applause, Pastor Vietti asked Welch

what life was like before he found God. Welch replied, "I thought I had it all. I got money, I got girls, I kept getting everything I thought when I was a kid was important. I was like, 'Wow, this is cool! I'm richer, richer, richer!'"

See WELCH, Page 12

INSIDE: More photos of Welch and his interaction with the crowd.  
Page 12

# OPINION

## Cannabis questions answered



PHOTOS BY IAN HAMILTON / THE RIP  
People can smoke marijuana traditionally, as with this cigarette, or use it in tea or food as an answer to medical ailments.

**After obtaining marijuana license, user still struggles with stereotypes**

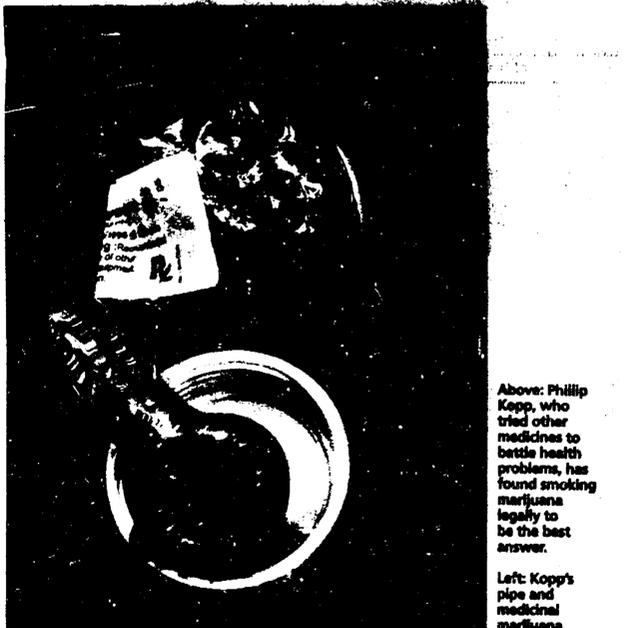
By PHILLIP G. KOPP  
Features Editor

The myths surrounding the process of obtaining medicinal marijuana differ greatly. Some people will say it's extremely easy, while others state how difficult it is.

### FIRST PERSON

I had heard of a local clinic that operates solely to help cannabis users, NorCal Health Care. I made an appointment and was instructed to have a California drivers license or ID card, a copy of my medical records and \$150 dollars for administration fees when I came in.

When I arrived, I had to be buzzed in through an electric gate after my appointment had been confirmed by security. When I walked in, I had to present my drivers license to prove who I was and was directed down the hall to the doctor's office. I had to present my license again to the receptionist and was asked to present my medical records and pay the administration fee.



Above: Phillip Kopp, who tried other medicines to battle health problems, has found smoking marijuana legally to be the best answer.

Left: Kopp's pipe and medicinal marijuana.

## Pharmaceutical companies capitalize on pot prohibition

Although drugs such as morphine and Darvon remain legal, medicinal marijuana is still scrutinized by many.

By BARRY LIPSON  
Rip staff writer

Drugs are bad. Most people will agree with that statement, although, most of these people will have no problem taking them when prescribed by a physician.

California's Proposition 215, she began growing marijuana in her backyard. Local and federal authorities raided her home and insisted on seizing her six plants, which was well within the limits of Proposition 215.

Why would they prefer us to take the synthetic version rather than the natural product? Well, Marinol costs twice as much per daily dose, according to several sources, including the Texas Marijuana Policy Project.

# OPINION

## Homosexuals deserve acceptance and respect

By MARILYN WHIPKEY  
Rip staff writer

OK, say you have a best friend for years and she comes to you and says she's gay and wants to marry her partner. Are you going to turn your back on her after she has stood by you for years?

Passing judgment on someone who is gay is the same as judging skin color. It's putting them down for who they really are. We're all human and have the same emotions. I think if we all are going to ever come together in this world, we need to accept what we cannot change and instead need to love one another.

## Integrity and the media

By DANIELA WILLIAMS  
Opinion Editor

On sick of being lied to. On either, I'm tired of getting half the story. One of the latest scandals to hit the White House is over "Jeff Gannon", the supposed journalist who sat in during press conferences to ask politically biased questions that served to undermine President Bush.

## A filtered view of war

By JULIANNA CRISALLI  
News Editor

When the Iraq war entered its darkest period, photos of death in the streets and hundreds of flag-draped coffins were withheld from newspapers and from television broadcasts.



By PHILLIP G. KOPP / THE RIP

## Bush's habit of spending will create future problems

By VICTOR GARCIA  
Sports Editor

Now that we are in a huge budget deficit, it is becoming increasingly difficult to remember the good times of the Clinton administration.

John Weaver, a McCain adviser is quoted in the article as saying, "Hopefully some very difficult decisions will be addressed between now and the time we have a new White House resident so that occupant isn't faced with some very expensive chickens coming home to roost."

## 'GADGET FEEDBACK

What do you think about BC having a new president?

- Henry Abshak, architect: "I care what he is going to do for our college."
- Monique Villarreal, psychology: "I didn't even know we had a new president."
- Anthony Beatty, undrafted: "It really doesn't matter to me. I just come to school and that's it."
- Elsa Guzman, architecture: "I just hope he brings good stuff to our school, a better education system."
- Rakam Alkudsh, identity: "I feel it's all right. It is not going to change something about me."
- Emanuel Gutierrez, engineering: "As long as nothing changes too drastically I wouldn't have a problem."

**THE RENEGADE RIP**

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# OPINION

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### We have bigger problems than cigarettes

"This is America, and we have the right to smoke wherever we choose! However, smokers' rights do not extend over to my lungs."

And your exhaust pipe does not have the right to extend over to my lungs either, but it does, doesn't it?

If you like to see the real effects of the exhaust pipe, simply go to grammar school at recess and watch our future generation dealing with asthma by sucking on an inhaler to get their lungs to function while they exercise at the playground. Now there's a real problem to deal with!

ROBERT WILLIS  
Redding, Calif.

### Bush's social security overhaul is based on lies

Where do you begin when an opinion piece begins with a blatant falsehood and solemnly intones "that's a fact," as Eladio Bobadilla did in the Feb. 24 Renegade Rip?

Well, maybe with the "true facts."

True fact: Social Security is not going to "go broke soon" by any measure. President Bush is simply lying about that. Every year, the Social Security trustees push back the exhaustion date for the Social Security Trust Fund. They'll likely do so again this month in the 2005 report, if they don't fudge the facts. Even then the system will be better funded than the Department of Defense, which is technically broke right now.

True fact: George W. Bush does not want to save Social Security. Bush has not advanced any proposal that would make the system more stable or better in any measurable way. He now admits privatization won't fix the system's current problems. Although his scheme is quite deliberately murky, he apparently wants to borrow \$2 trillion and carve out \$40 billion immediately for Wall Street brokerage fees. Yet another boost for his "birth tax," the money Bush is asking generations yet unborn to pay with no net benefit.

True fact: Social Security has already been "fixed." It was fixed back in the 1980s, when the regressive payroll tax was increased as part of a deal to address the structural problems in the system. That deal raised taxes for the past 20 years, and now Bush wants to swindle those who faithfully paid in. Why? Because he's run the federal budget into an iceberg with tax giveaways for people who didn't need it and wars that have cost us 50,000 casualties and billions of dollars so far. That's where Bush put the money he stole from Social Security. And he's as much as told us he ain't paying us back.

True fact: For Bush's "plan" to work, you have to assume that the U.S. economy will do so well

over the next four decades that Social Security won't need any help anyway. You literally have to assume that everyone who invests in the stock market will do better than average. I fear Bush, like Bobadilla, has no trouble believing that's possible. But he's already demonstrated his grasp of basic math.

True fact: Everywhere privatization of public retirement has been tried, it has been at best no improvement (Great Britain) and at worst a disaster (Chile.) At least 75 percent of those participating in the British private investment account program will not have enough to retire with adequate pensions, according to the British Pensions Commission.

True fact: The Bush Administration and its paid assistants in the press have no trouble lying about the current situation and their plans. They take quotes out of context, change yardsticks in mid-measurement and flip-flop on the very existence of the trust fund when it serves their ends. These are not honest people.

True fact: There is a crisis regarding Social Security and George W. Bush has only a limited time to address it. That crisis is that the American people may be starting to wise up after decades of concentrated lying on his part. Only about a third of the public supports his scheme now. That number dwindles the more they learn about it. If he's going to destroy Social Security, Bush is going to have to lie harder and more shamefully than he ever has before, even counting his Weapons of Mass Destruction whoppers.

Fortunately, for him that's a no-brainer.

CHRISTOPHER LEITHISER  
BC staff

### Marijuana use is Biblically acceptable

It is important for cannabis users to know where they stand on the cannabis issue in Biblical terms. It is Biblically correct to re-legalize cannabis (Kaneh Bosm, before the King James Bible).

It is no accident that the Bible indicates God created all the seed-bearing plants and said they were all good, on literally the very first page in Genesis 1:11-12 and 29-30. The only Biblical restriction placed on cannabis is that we use it with thanksgiving - see 1 Timothy 4:1-5, where it even describes who will promote its prohibition as those who have fallen away from the faith.

Many people would also like clergy to speak up on this issue since Jesus Christ risked going to jail in order to heal the sick.

STAN WHITE  
Dillon, Colo.

# Little faith in new BC president

As William Andrews begins his presidency, let's hope he understands our needs as working students.

By DOTTY BURNS  
Rip staff writer

The ninth president of Bakersfield College, William Andrews, is scheduled to start his presidency April 1, after being selected by the district board of trustees Feb. 18. The presidency of Bakersfield College is an important office. The president will oversee most of the changes that will affect the future of the college.

Even though I understand the importance this school official has on tuition and college requirements, I fail to be inspired. Past college presidents have contributed to my apathetic viewpoint.

I believe interim president Lincoln Hall failed in the effort to portray himself as a sociable leader and failed to even have a relationship with students of Bakersfield College. Most students probably wouldn't recognize his name. One of the few places a student can learn about Hall is on the Bakersfield College Web site, and even on the site, there are only a few indistinct facts about him listed.

I would be impressed, and even encouraged, about the new president if he said that he is here to serve the students of Bakersfield College, and will do whatever it takes to make the time block of classes work.

Like most Bakersfield College students on campus, I am more concerned with my research paper on Sir Isaac Newton's synthesis than the president's unreasonable propositions. Apathy may seem like the common feeling among most 20-year-olds toward any political office, but why should I concern myself with a college president who refuses to take any of my fellow students' interests into account?

# Comfort rocks, ridiculous fashion statements don't

Being in college is no excuse for wearing your pants too low, pajamas to class and sunglasses indoors.

By ROBIN JONES  
Rip staff writer

The state of Virginia had a great idea. Unfortunately, it never went through, but it was a great idea nonetheless. Earlier this month, Virginia's House of Delegates offered a bill that would fine anyone wearing pants too low.

As I said, the bill never passed, but it does bring attention to the fact that some bad fashion could cost you. No, wait. It should cost you.

I'm not the most fashion-conscious person, but I do know when to be offended by poor clothing choices. To keep with Virginia's pet peeve about low rising pants, I believe (and I mean this from the bottom of my heart) that when you wear a belt, it should be able to keep your pants up.

Seeing people who wear belts just because they're cool-looking makes me sad.

The belt was invented to keep pants up. What an awful waste of leather! If you are going to wear a belt, please make sure it keeps your pants up. No one wants to see your bad moon rising.

Just like the belt, sunglasses and hats are not worn properly. Propping your sunglasses on top of your head is just fine, but wearing them indoors looks a little off.

If you wear your sunglasses inside, you're either (1) really hung over, (2) out of your mind from a little green substance, or (3) Bono from super rock group U2. Last I checked, there was only one Bono.

Then, there is the deal with wearing your hat to the side. The last thing I like seeing is a college-bound person wearing a baseball cap to the side.

I immediately want to say, "Hey, look! That kid thinks he's in college!" I just want to smack the hat from their head and send them back to junior high. We're in college now, people.

Let's dress a little more like adults.

If you wear your sunglasses inside, you're either (1) really hung over, (2) out of your mind from a little green substance, or (3) Bono from super rock group U2. Last I checked, there was only one Bono.

I know, I know. You're probably thinking, "Well, we're in college and we want to dress more comfortably. Back off!"

Comfort rocks, I swear. Its just that sometimes, people take it too far. Take, for example, wearing pajamas to school.

Yeah, it's popularized by dorm life and this falls into "Hey! I'm in college and I want to be comfortable!"

Still, I find it ridiculous to come to school wearing your footy pajamas.

scuffing up the clothing that you usually wear to bed.

I would not want to wear my pajamas to bed ever again after dragging them through the filth at any community college.

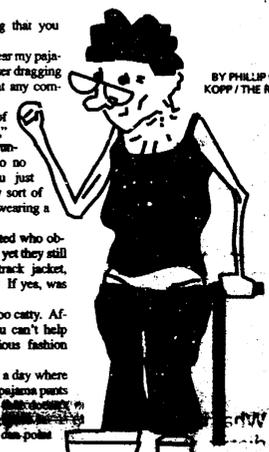
On the same lines of "being comfortable," looking at people in running suits angers me to no end. Now, unless you just came from a run or any sort of sport, you shouldn't be wearing a track suit.

There are people spotted who obviously do not work out, yet they still wear the wind pants, track jacket, etc. Were you running? If yes, was it worth the fashion?

Look, I try not to be too catty. After a while, though, you can't help but point out the obvious fashion faux pas on campus.

In fact, if there is ever a day where you see me wearing my pajama pants, please, low, with a belt, and sunglasses, that's when you can point the finger back at me.

Ready to party, sonny!



BY PHILIP G. KOPP / THE RIP

# FEATURES

## Expressive Lessons



BC history professor Randall Beeman brings passion and animation to his lectures

By PHILIP G. KOPP  
Features Editor

He flunked out of three colleges and still earned a doctorate. He fought cancer twice and beat it both times. He is a published author, husband, father and one of the most passionate professors you may ever meet. His name is Randall Beeman, and he firmly believes that history is one of the most important subjects in education.

Raised in Frankfort, Kan., a small town compared to that place on "The Andy Griffith Show," Beeman was the youngest of four children but came from an extensive family that had a huge emphasis on education. His father had a small veterinarian practice in town until he decided to teach.

"When I was 12, he became a professor at a community college," he said. "Then he became a professor at Kansas State University."

Beeman spent time with his neigh-

bor, Paul Reust, who has one of the largest arrowhead collections in the United States. Reust also had an enormous collection of history books that young Beeman would read. He spent hours going through their library and would often take trips to Indian burial grounds and archeological digs.

"What really got me into history was studying the Native Americans," Beeman said. When Beeman entered high school, he was a regular troublemaker and was even told by his history teacher that he would be horrible in the profession. Afterward, Beeman went straight to college where he continued to do badly.

"I majored in keg tapping and street pharmacy," he said. "Ended up working at a lumber yard and doing

farm work all around Kansas." One day, while working in 105-degree weather on a farm, he was told to burn a variety of materials from 10 different buildings. The high humidity and scorching heat caused Beeman to be bedridden for two days. It was then that he decided to go back to school.

He achieved his bachelor's and master's degrees at Kansas State University and worked as a teaching assistant. Before obtaining his Ph.D. at Iowa State University, Beeman was married and became a father.

He continued teaching, which led him to Las Vegas where he was employed as an assistant professor. During his time there, he read about the good pay rate for California community college professors. In 1996, Beeman applied for a job at BC and was



Bakersfield College history professor Randall Beeman, who was told in high school that he would make a horrible teacher, speaks with high enthusiasm and a lot of expression in his class.

chosen among 12 other applicants. "I have found teaching here to be an absolutely rewarding experience," he said. "I cannot write a better job description than for the one I have."

While teaching, he also writes for various publications, has received numerous awards, had a book published and has become a chair member of various historical societies throughout California. Beeman has

also had to face severe trials and tribulations. In 2000, he was diagnosed with a brutal case of skin cancer on his back. The cancer created a giant hole in his back that would often erupt. He refused to let it take over and still continued to work.

After fighting off the disease he faced another bout with cancer three years later in his colon that was surgically removed.

Going on his ninth year at BC has only lead Beeman to become more dedicated in his work. Helping students to find out who they are and where they are going are just a couple of the rewards he greatly loves.

"The opportunity to be here is a lesson in itself that we need to appreciate," Beeman said. "This is a pretty good life we have here, and we need to take advantage of that."

IAN HAMILTON / THE RIP

## BC BRAINS

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

### What is a diatribe?



Brittany Bennett, business: "It sounds like the word deprive. That's what I feel like that word means."



Christen Siegmund, undecided: "Some type of nutrient."



Eden Elissegue, business: "Two tribes."



Nathan Brown, undecided: "It probably means two."



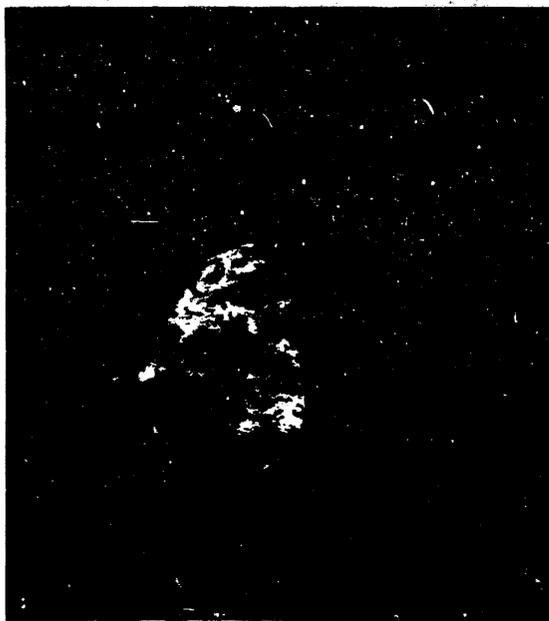
Sean Wisneropp, liberal arts: "A product to lose weight."



Thomas Nichols, radiology technology: "Yelling at a person."

CORRECT ANSWER: A bitter and abusive speech or writing.

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# FEATURES

## Local rock station 'hypes' local bands

Radio station 106.1 KRAB-FM is producing an album comprised of songs from only local bands.

By ROBIN JONES  
Rip staff writer

Local bands take notice: KRAB Radio wants to give you exposure.

Bakersfield's heritage Active Rock station, 106.1 KRAB-FM, is compiling its first ever CD consisting of nothing but local bands.

The CD, "KRABland Bands Vol. 1," is scheduled for release on March 10 and features 12 local bands that are currently making a mark on Bakersfield's music scene.

Danny Spanks, program director of KRAB and host of the Sunday night show, "KRABland Bands," explains that it was a long labor of love.

"The most important thing for a local band to do is to be heard, and that's something that the CD will help with."

— Danny Spanks, KRAB program director

"It was something that we've always wanted to do. In the past we have done battle of the bands, and this is a different avenue to hype local bands," he said.

"It's good for them, it's good for us. It should have been done sooner."

Perhaps it was the decision-making process in choosing all 12 bands for the album that took so long.

Among the bands on the CD are The Filthies, Swag 667, Riddle, Karmahitlist and Myndick.

Spanks explained the methods that were used to decide which bands would be included on the album.

"We did an on-air solicitation encouraging bands to drop off their CD," he said. "Me and a bunch of fellow KRAB jocks got together and listened to everything that was submitted ... (and) narrowed it down to a wide variety of bands."

While the CD will be initially released at Montgomery World Plaza, it will also be sold at many other places.

The price of the album will be around \$5 and almost 1,000 copies will be made.

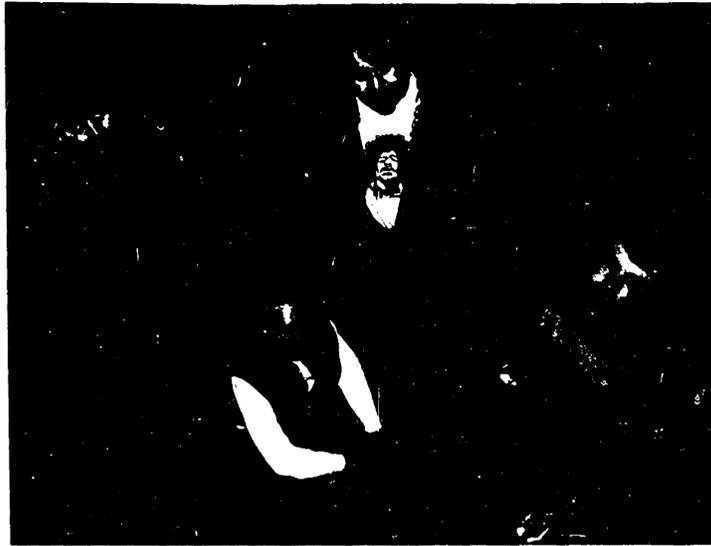
The sales volume of the first CD will determine whether a second album will be released.

Spanks and his KRAB radio station colleagues hope the album will be a success.

"The idea is for the proceeds off of this CD to finance Volume 2," Spanks said. "We're optimistic that we're going to sell out."

Not only will the CD be sold for a low price, but copies will also be sent to members of all 12 bands and to certain record executives affiliated with KRAB. This will be done to give the bands exposure.

"The most important thing for a local band to do is to be heard, and that's something that the CD will help with," Spanks said.



From left to right, Ben Sherman, Jeff Clayton, Eric Carrillo and Jared Lawson, from the local band Addition Theory, were recently signed to Electric Cowboy Records, an independent label.

IAN HAMILTON / THE RIP

## Unsigned no more

Editor's Note: Last semester, we profiled a number of struggling artists in a series called "The Unsigned." One of those stories was on Addition Theory, a local band consisting of lead singer Jared Lawson, bassist Ben Sherman, drummer Jeff Clayton and guitarist Eric Carrillo.

By IAN HAMILTON  
Editor in Chief

One day they are scraping together all their cash to get an hour or two of recording time in the studio and the next they spend all day tweaking one song for free—that's what it means to be signed.

Members of the local band Addition Theory signed their names to a contract of more than 20 pages with Electric Cowboy Records, an independent label. The band is planning to release an album later this year and film a music video in June. They also get a piece of whatever money their music makes and free time in the studio to make it.

"When you're on your own, you're nickel and diming it," Carrillo said. "Now we can spend a whole day on a song."

The band members said that they've sacrificed a lot of time, money and even relationships while they tried to make their music. Through it

all, Lawson said that he has learned patience, and they all said that now things are easier.

"We don't have to sacrifice as much now because we've matured as a group," Carrillo said.

Being signed has not significantly changed any of the band member's lives, and none of them have quit their day jobs. But when asked if they have stars in their eyes now, all four snickered a little bit.

"I started out a long time ago with stars in my eyes," Sherman said.

Sherman's father, Pat, said he was proud of his son and that even when Ben was a young kid, the first thing he would do when he came home

was play music.

"The guys are trying to get their music heard by more people, which is also a benefit of being signed because now they have someone to represent the band and do it for them. They don't have to do everything themselves all the time."

When asked what they want out of their music, they answered that they want a sense of accomplishment and to make a living at it. They wish music was their day job.

"Maybe this is as far as we go and maybe we get further," Carrillo said.

Getting signed, at least, has taken them one step closer to what they want.

# FEATURES

## Movie 'Constantine' deals with its demons

By STEVEN MARTIN  
Online Editor

John Constantine is having a very bad life. He sees angels and demons everywhere he goes. He also just found out he is dying and he has to deal with the daily ramifications of a long standing bet between The Devil and God concerning all of mankind.

Based on the DC/Vertigo comic, "Constantine" tells the story of John Constantine

(Keanu Reeves). Constantine is doomed to go to hell, a place it turns out he visits quite often. It's during his quest to change his outcome and buy his way into heaven via good deeds that he encounters Detective Angela Dodson (Rachel Weisz), who is trying to uncover the mystery behind the suicide of her twin sister Isabel (also Weisz).

### MOVIE REVIEW

Constantine is aided on his journey by many colorful characters including a young cab driver, a bowling alley dwelling weapons smith, the hard-drinking Father Hennessy (played by the always enjoyable Pruitt Taylor Vince) and a nightclub running voodoo priest named Midnight.

"Constantine," while at times enjoyable, is steeped in Catholic dogma, so much in fact that I left the theater feeling like I had just sat through an uninspiring theology lesson.

Reeves does a decent job at bringing the main character to life, but I think audiences have grown tired of seeing him in this type of role and will start to question his range as an actor. Weisz's attempt to portray the roles of the troubled twin sisters is unconvincing and at times felt like she just phoned in her performance.

One high point was the performance of Constantine's sidekick, Chas (Shia LaBeouf). His acting ability is very apparent, and I look

forward to seeing what this young actor can do when given a better film to perform in. "Constantine" isn't necessarily a bad movie, it is just one that tries to accomplish too much. It is further hindered by several plot holes that are big enough to drive a truck through. The special effects are quite good, but good special effects do not make a good movie (I hope George Lucas is reading this). In the end, I cannot recommend this movie. "Constantine" gets a 6 out of 10.

## Healthy living tips for spring break

By VERONICA ANN NAVARRO  
Rip staff writer

Getting fit for spring break is what's on the minds of many students on campus, but losing those extra pounds to keep their bodies fit can often be challenging. However, changing your eating habits and dedicating yourself to a daily routine of exercise can help you stay healthy and in good shape, BC Health Center officials said.

According to the pamphlets in the Student Health Center, in order to maintain a healthy and fit body, it's important to have a positive diet. Eating adequate amounts of carbohydrates, protein and fats can keep your energy level more stable.

Healthy foods such as fresh fruits, fresh vegetables, whole grains and lean meats are all essential to good health and can reduce the risk of heart attack and cancer, the pamphlets say.

The pamphlets also encourage drinking 6 to 8 glasses of water every day to meet the requirements for keeping your body hydrated.

Things like walking, jogging, bicycling and even aerobic dancing on a daily basis can help control blood pressure which can decrease the chances of heart disease and heart attacks.

Exercising will also speed up your metabolism, which in result will give you more energy throughout the day, help in reducing stress and put you in an upbeat mood.

Although exercise is a vital part of getting in shape, having a good diet also plays a big role in getting fit, according to information provided by the Health Center.

"Eating healthy is not just losing weight, it's a life style," College Nurse Debra Berry Strong said. "By making a few changes in your lifestyle with a combination of a well-structured exercise and diet, looking good for spring break should be a piece of cake, also said."

The model of the health and wellness file was "an apple a day isn't enough, but healthy lifestyles are."

### Roach crawls into town



JACQUELINE WHITE / THE RIP

Tobin Esperance, bassist for Papa Roach, performs with his band at Montgomery World Plaza on Feb. 24. Papa Roach plays at Avalon in Hollywood on April 15.

## 'Hitch' gives good girl advice

By BRYSON PAUL  
Rip staff writer

First it was Zack Morris on NBC's "Saved By the Bell." Then there was Mel Gibson with "What Women Want."

Now, mega-star Will Smith ("Ali," "I Robot") is the next playboy with all the right moves for the ladies when he takes the lead in the comical romance "Hitch: The Cure for the Common Man."

Men still believe they know what women want without any confusion. However, behind every man is a woman rolling her eyes, because at the end of the day, men eventually realize they don't know anything about what women want.

Still, it's hilarious to watch men attempt to figure out women, and "Hitch" will surely have audiences busting a gut and in tears.

Smith plays a smooth love doctor, Alex "Hitch" Hitchens, who makes a wealthy living helping ordinary Joes with zero skills or knowledge in the romance department land the women of their dreams.

The story plot thickens when the wonderful Eva Mendes enters into the picture as the love interest of Hitch; however, she develops a personal agenda of her own while involved with Hitch.

By using his professional skills with romance, Hitch will have men taking notes and women fantasizing with the awesomely creative tactics he pulls out of his sleeves to win the heart of the gossip journalist.

While trying to melt the heart of the cold-hearted Sara (Mendes), Hitch tends to his clients, which include "Kings of Queens" star Kevin James, who plays Albert, a clumsy accountant looking to win the heart of a famous client.

Through Hitch's dating advice for Albert, con-

flict is created between Hitch and Sara just as their relationship advances.

Their arguments make for the biggest laughs throughout the movie, especially when involving a certain food scene. Talk about tossed salad.

It's Smith's charmingly smooth lines and adorably dorky butterfinger incidents that will have audiences smiling throughout the entire movie.

Charming and romantic, "Hitch" generates most of its laughs from the helplessly adorable antics from not only Smith himself, but the other characters throughout the movie.

Albert steals the show with his comedic performance as he keeps audiences falling out of their seats with his unbelievably bad dancing routines, his constant food fights with himself, and his temper tantrums.

Smith plays it safe with his dorkishly charming routine of comedy, being funny on accident, like by getting his shirt caught in a taxi or putting his foot in his mouth with the things he says.

With another impressive directorial performance from Andy Tennant ("Sweet Home Alabama"), "Hitch" will have men getting the nearest yellow pages looking for a love doctor and women hoping to be swept off their feet.

Smith gives another stunning performance and gives men the courage and knowledge they need to go after the girls of their dreams.

Furthermore, the cast of "Hitch" is a colorful.

The movie can't go wrong with a team like charmer Smith, funny fat boy James, and beautiful leading ladies Mendes and Amber Valletta.

A feel-good romance with plenty of hilarious moments and a powerful message is also delivered in a conclusion that makes "Hitch" a must-see movie this spring.

There are a few rough patches with dry humor; however, like relationships, it's the wonderful moments that make "Hitch" worthwhile.

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# SGA approves a one dollar increase in student health fee

By KATHERINE J. WHITE  
Rap staff writer

The Student Government Association of Bakersfield College recently approved a motion to raise the Student Health Fee, and the Academic Senate wants to hear student feedback on the new waitlist system for registration for classes.

According to Bill Cordero, president of Student Services, the Student Health Department gets into debt every semester, which necessitates the raising of the student health fee

from \$12 to \$13.

The Board of Governor's Waiver (BOGW) does not cover the health fee. According to Don Turney, advisor to SGA, the Student Health Department is "in the hole" by \$70,000. Turney also says the Kern Community College District has the right to bump up the student health fee by a \$1 every now and then.

"Most community colleges say, 'Screw 'em' (the students). Just make them pay for it. We're asking the students' permission to raise the student health fee," Turney said.

The issue of the student health fee was brought to SGA, according to Turney.

The worst-case scenario, said Turney, is that the Student Health Center would close.

In regard to the waitlist system, according to one student representative, who did not want to be identified, the Academic Senate wants to "twink the system a little, to improve it."

The representative stated that the senate wants the waitlists in general to be trimmed down. In other words, the senate does not want 15 people on a waitlist for a class when

there is no chance that they could get in.

Also, the student representative noted that the system drags out longer than the add-slip system.

"The waitlist system is a work-in-progress," concluded Turney.

Upcoming events, such as Spring Fling, were discussed during a recent SGA meeting. Costs for various aspects of Spring Fling were noted. The total cost for Spring Fling, including costs for entertainment and awards were estimated at \$1,500.

The band Soul Ajar has been recruited to play during the event.

In another meeting, the status of the SGA budget was enthusiastically discussed, as well as the necessity of student stipends.

In regard to the SGA budget, Turney said, "We're light years ahead. We know where we are and what we're spending."

As for the neediness of SGA stipends, Turney said, "In 1980, the student government (at BC) was dead. It was a joke. It's been said that a student government's stipend is a lynchpin of stability of student government."



Above: The BC Health Center offers students free painkillers, Band-Aids and tissues.

Right: Students can find a variety of pamphlets on everything from diabetes to body piercing.

PHOTOS BY JULIANA ORSALI / THE RP

## Free health care for students

The BC Health Center offers free consultations, blood testing and vision screening for students

By IAN HAMILTON  
Editor in Chief

Every semester, students at Bakersfield College are charged a \$12 health fee. Although mandatory, it buys free medical services available on campus — including prescription medication.

The Student Health Center is confidential and available to all currently enrolled students. By just walking into the office, a student can get pamphlets on various health concerns or grab some common pain relief medication. The same type of medicines cost \$9 to \$9 cents per pair of pills in the bookstore.

"I just heard about it (the health center). I didn't know we could come here for pills for headaches and stuff," said Araceli Aguilar, 18, who came into the center for some pills.

For more intensive health concerns, students can see Dr. Michael Farber. He is the only doctor staffing the center and he works limited hours, but he can write a prescription and provide the medication for free if it is in stock.

He sees an average of 15-20 students each day.

"I'm going to try to treat everything I can here to avoid the cost to the student."

— Dr. Michael Farber, campus physician

"Most of the things that people come in with, we're able to treat here," Farber said.

"Every once in a while you have some life-threatening things, and those have to be sent to the hospital."

The center is open Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and on Friday from 8 a.m. to noon. Farber works from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday.

The Health Center is located on the first floor of the Student Services building, below Financial Aid Services.

"We see and treat everybody that comes in. I'm not a consultant, but I'm a good listener," Farber said.

Although the staff in the health center thought getting a full-time psychologist was in the works, that's not going to happen, at least this year, according to Vice President of Student Services Bill Cordero.

"Unfortunately, we've had to pull that position. We're no longer advertising it due to lack of funding. So, that position will not exist at Bakersfield College next year," Cordero said.

"Hopefully in the future it will, but currently due to funding, we are not going to fill that position."

The center is open Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and on Friday from 8 a.m. to noon. Farber works from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday.

The Health Center is located on the first floor of the Student Services building, below Financial Aid Services.

"We see and treat everybody that comes in. I'm not a consultant, but I'm a good listener," Farber said.

# M.E.Ch.A. promotes attending college after high school at annual youth conference

By JOSHUA AYERS  
Rap staff writer

The M.E.Ch.A. club hosted its annual youth conference Feb. 24 at Bakersfield College to promote college after high school for 200 minority students from 19 schools.

The conference began in the auditorium with a series of motivational speakers, including Bakersfield Dean of Students Don Turney and professors Jack Brigham and Robert Turney, who spoke about the positive aspects attending college after high school.

The conference held six workshops for the students with themes pertaining to financial aid, Chicano

studies, job placement, career pathways, college life and breaking inner-city youth violence.

"It went great," said Jesse Ibarra, vice president of the club. Ibarra also said that the purpose of the conference was to encourage students who otherwise would not pursue higher education to do so. According to Ibarra, the goal was fulfilled.

Others agreed. "We kind of opened up their eyes and made college seem more attainable," said Department Assistant JoAnn Acosta, who helped out with the conference.

Acosta said that a few of the workshops were intended to show students how to qualify for financial aid and how to seek scholarships and grants,

"We kind of opened up their eyes and made college seem more attainable."

— JoAnn Acosta, Health Department assistant

such as the Board of Governors Grant that covers tuition and health fees. The total estimated cost of holding the conference was stated during a Student Government Association meeting Feb. 17 as \$3,142.

M.E.Ch.A. had raised close to \$1,700 before the meeting. Ibarra petitioned the SGA for \$1,000 to

help with the conference but was overwhelmed when the SGA unanimously approved \$1,900 in support of the event.

Through a significant amount of the conference money was spent on food, motivational speakers and awarded \$250 in scholarship money.

"This is a good way to show that college is for everybody," said Michael Flores, a group leader and old member of M.E.Ch.A.

Flores said that the conference explained that going to college after high school gave the students more of an opportunity to learn about their people and their history, areas of study that aren't routinely studied in the high school curriculum.

### NEWS BRIEFS

BC asks for donations for their Spring clothing drive on April 21. Bakersfield College is organizing a spring clothing drive now through April 21. Donations of clothing items (shoes, belts, ties, scarves, shirts and pants) for men, women and children can be donated at the Student Activities Office from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Other donation drop off zones will be available later on. Newly bought hygiene products (soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, etc.), children's toys and literatures, and non-perishable food items are also welcomed.

The donation date for the items will be announced at a later date.

BC Cheer Team will be holding tryouts beginning April 4. Tryouts for Bakersfield College's 2005-2006 Cheer Team are coming up.

The orientation and first practice will be held between 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. April 4 in the BC Dance Room. Practice clinics will run through from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. through April 7, and tryouts will be held at 6 p.m. April 8. No prior cheer leading experience is required.

Students must have a college GPA of 2.0 or better, and high school students will need a GPA of 2.2 or better. Students are asked to bring their transcripts. For more information, contact Nichole Scanlon at 834-4488 or Becki Whitson at 395-4619.

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University Singers & Chamber Singers  
March 13 (4pm) First Presbyterian Church  
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### Xbox dangerous power cords recalled

By STEVEN MARTIN  
Online Editor

In February, Microsoft announced a recall concerning its video game power cords. The recall covers the power cords that came with and connect to the video game system that were purchased before Oct. 23, 2003.

Microsoft discovered that the power cords could lead to electrical fires when the Xbox is left on for long periods of time. To determine if you have one of the systems that is involved with this recall, simply look at the bottom of your Xbox unit and check the manufacturing date. Only Xbox systems manufactured before Oct. 23, 2003, need to have their power cords replaced. If your Xbox system was made on or after Oct. 23, 2003, then the recall does not apply. Joseph Mealy, an employee at the

video game retail store GameStop in Bakersfield said, "From my experience with Microsoft they are usually pretty good about taking care of people. One of the people I know sent out for an Xbox cord and they (Microsoft) said it would take 6-8 weeks to get it, but he got it in three days."

Those who do qualify for the recall can either go to www.Xbox.com and click on the power cord replacement link, or call 1-866-771-0450 if you are unable to access the Web site.

Microsoft will provide the replacement cord free of charge and you won't have to mail back your old power cord. According to Microsoft, after ordering the replacement power cord it should take about to take 2-4 weeks for the new power cord to arrive. Until then Microsoft recommends that you turn off the Xbox when it is not in use.

# Debate team finishes first in novice division

By GINA MENDOZA  
Rap staff writer

The BC debate team ended its season with a bang by winning the novice division in Policy Debate at a tournament hosted by Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo on Feb. 26.

John Chaplow and Kristen Lechtrek learned up to finish third and seventh, respectively, for speakers points at the tournament. Against

three four-year schools, they beat Cal Poly in the quarterfinal elimination round, eliminated Chico State in the semifinals, and beat Sacramento State in the final round.

"We're all college students," Lechtrek said. "It doesn't feel different or intimidating to debate against four-year schools."

Policy Debate requires a lot of research that debaters collect from mid-September through April. Coaches

Michael Korrok and Bob Lechtrek spend many hours with the team, including weekends and winter break. "There is no amount of money that can compensate a coach for the amount of time he puts in," Bob Lechtrek said.

BC has competed in six tournaments this season. In winning at Cal Poly, BC beat out 25 teams from about 10 different schools.

"It (the BC debate team) has a

great reputation, especially over the past 12 years or so. It is the premier community college debate program in the country," Korrok said. BC consistently either wins or finishes in the top three spots at the Community College National Tournament.

In part it was ultimately BC's reputation that persuaded Korrok to come to Bakersfield three years ago. With an extensive background participating in and coaching debate, from

MIT, the University of Southern Illinois, Kansas State, Cornell and Florida State, the decision to teach at BC was made over several other four-year schools and universities.

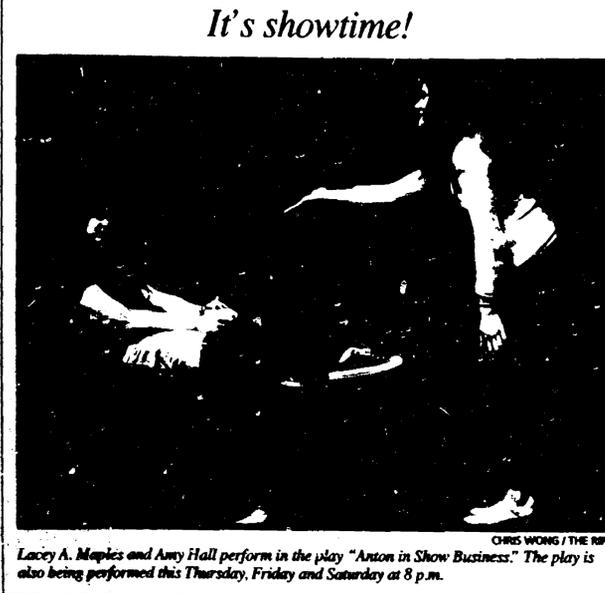
This year, the debate team varied between six to 10 members. Team members would like to have more people involved.

"It is a lot more fun when you have a lot of people and you show up at a debate tournament and you have a

group of people there. It shows that people really care about the program," said team member Jorge Mujica, 22, a political science major.

Until the season starts up again, the plan is to lecture, and work on skills and strategies for next season.

"There is only one major tournament left for us and that is the National Championship, and with that particular team we plan on doing a lot of work," said Lechtrek.



Lacey A. Maples and Amy Hall perform in the play "Anton in Show Business." The play is also being performed this Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m.

## Speaker outlines danger of computer viruses, spyware and identity theft

By KATHERINE J. WHITE  
Rap staff writer

Organized criminals in Bulgaria, Romania and Russia may have "washed in" your Social Security number, your bank account number or your credit card number.

Some "spy" who does not work for the CIA may know what your favorite Web sites are.

A worm put all South Korean computers offline and sent North Korea on full military alert.

These are only three problems caused by computer hackers described by Professor Joe King, a Bakersfield College and current engineering professor at the University of the Pacific.

His lecture Feb. 28 at BC was titled "Phishing — the Prevalent use of E-mail to Steal Your Money and Your Identity." Identity theft by hacking through e-mail, known as "phishing," began a year ago, according to King.

Phishing, which is becoming increasingly popular among organized criminals in Eastern Europe as well as in America, is a "growing problem," according to King, who also works as a consultant for Internet security four months out of the year in Washington, D.C.

King explained the phishing concept: He said it is a crafty way to acquire data from unwitting victims. The goal is identity theft.

Phishing is the act of transmitting an e-mail that purports to be from a bank or other legitimate source. The e-mail tricks the user into visiting a phony cloned Web site where the victim is lured into supposedly "updating" personal information that they include social security, bank, account and credit card numbers.

Criminals have learned to fake e-mail addresses for bank Web sites, such as Bank of America and Washington Mutual, as well as digital certificates from these establishments. King said it is usually young American males who "fish" for credit card numbers to sell.

The credit card numbers are not difficult to trace in America, but the numbers are harder to trace if the perpetrators operate from central and

eastern Europe.

One way, King said, to check for the authenticity of a so-called bank site is to put the computer's cursor onto the status bar, which will show where the user is going. If the link offered by the site does not match up with the address shown in the status bar, the site is not legitimate.

King admonishes users to never respond to requests for personal data by "updating" responses through e-mail. Instead, the user should call the establishment.

The user should also regularly consult bank, credit and debit card statements to make sure that all transactions are legitimate, and if any transaction appears suspicious, the user must get in touch with the bank and credit card issuers.

King said the safest way to give out credit card numbers is to contact the Web site. The user must also check for the yellow lock symbol located on the browser status bar. Another clue to a website's authenticity is to check the address, which should read https:// rather than just http://. A suggested Web site for protection against identity theft is the "Protecting Your Identity in the Digital Age" Web site. The address is: <http://fins.mund.org/identity/protectyouridentity.html>.

Spyware, explained King, is any software that secretly collects computer user information. This device observes the user's Internet habits and conveys the information to the hacker through the Internet. The spyware is routinely camouflaged as part of "free" programs that can be downloaded from the Internet.

RealPlayer is a form of Spyware that taps into your listening habits, and Gohop is Spyware that lures the user into using a "free" video player, and then Gohop changes the user's home page. The red-flag sign of a Spyware infection is the slowed pace of Web browsing.

PCs can be infected with anywhere from 50 to 1,000 Spyware programs, according to King. Increased surfing increases the likelihood of infection. "Spyware is the No. 1 computer problem for 2005," King said.

Invasive Spyware programs appearing on an individual PC can be numerous.

"The average is about 75," King said. The worst case appearing on a

PC was 1,000, he added.

King said the deluge of Spyware is not always a result of the user accepting free items.

"Six months ago it was like this," he said. "But the Internet is changing all the time."

Nevertheless, he is wary of accepting so-called "free" software, King said, and be alert for slow Web browsing. The best Spyware remover available is Spy Sweeper. Spybot is also available and Search and Destroy is free but "works imperfectly," King said.

Browser Hijacking, another form of hacking that can correct, is a flagitious way to bait the user into visiting Web sites whose proprietors pay the computer hacker for luring the user to their sites.

Tell-tale symptoms will show that the user's default start page is changed, and porn and gambling sites appear on the screen. The inquisitive Web site initiates changes to the user's computer through vulnerabilities. However, changes can be easily fixed through "patches" or service packs offered by companies such as Microsoft. Often it is essential to edit Windows' registry.

However, the hijacking software often reduces the locked settings each time the user reboots the computer. So, no matter how frequently the user acts right, they are hacked again the next time the computer is rebooted. King recommended that computers be regularly "patched."

A Trojan Horse is a standard application, such as a game or a self-displaying photo, but it has a secret program, usually a peaky, intrusive virus that comes into play when the Trojan is fired up.

The virus, often using the e-mail-attached Trojan, is a program that attaches itself to another program in order to replicate without the user's knowing it. This degenerate parasite's goal is to replicate itself as much as possible, often employing the user's e-mail address book as a means to locate new hosts, according to King.

To avoid the virus, never double-click an e-mail attachment if unsure of its contents, King said.

# Open house draws small crowd but introduces people to BC

From digital arts to child development, Career Pathways event offers variety of information.

By DOTTY BURNS  
Rap staff writer

Bakersfield College held its second annual Career Pathways Open House on March 5. Although the turnout was relatively small, school department officials and event coordinators were eager to introduce incoming students to the college.

The event, which took place in the cafeteria, offered potential students the chance to gain general information about fields of study, as well as presenting a first hand look at the community college.

There were approximately 10 booths in the cafeteria, which represented departments such as digital arts, allied health and child development.

Behind every booth were two to three representatives, all of whom were helpful advocates of the departments. They answered questions and provided informative pamphlets. The open house event also included tours of the campus that took place every half hour.

The event is a new edition to Bakersfield College's master plan, according to Ed Kaudson, one of several event coordinators.

"Rather than trying to attract high school students into very specific majors, what we've moved to is what's known as Career Pathways," he said, "and so we've taken whole groups of majors and clustered them, and we've ended up with six Career Pathways."

Kaudson said that this program makes the experience of first-time enrollment less overwhelming for students. He also pointed out that the program allows students to explore available opportunities at BC.

Don Clark, director of public information and the announcer of Career Pathways, believes that the program might enable students to see things that may possibly spark their interest and motivate them to pursue an education.

"I know what every kid is uniquely gifted, and they might not know it," he said.

"They might even be a high school dropout, but they've got a gift, and if you can find a way to match that gift with a promising career path, that awakens a potential and you've got a



Rod Roemmich sculpts a block of ice for the Career Pathways event on March 5.

"Just being able to see the campus so you're not totally clueless when you first enroll helps."

— Portia Tilson, high school sophomore

success story on your hands."

A majority of the representatives — made up of counselors, student volunteers and instructors — said that it wasn't just about providing visitors with an opportunity to explore their interests, but providing visitors unfamiliar with the college experience with essential information.

"Often times students haven't had any exposure to college, and maybe don't have parents at home who have gone to college. So parents bring them here to get an early start and perhaps to obtain some general

information," said counselor Sandy Sierra.

"So far I like how they're reaching out to the community, but we'll see how this goes today," said Jane Marin, 44, a possible incoming freshman who attended the open house event in order to obtain information for herself and for her daughter, Juliana Marin, 14.

A majority of the visitors interviewed said that seeing the campus helped them to become better acquainted with BC.

"Just being able to see the campus so you're not totally clueless when you first enroll helps," said Portia Tilson, 16, a sophomore from South High School.

"I think it's a pretty good setup, and it makes it a lot simpler to figure out. I especially liked the campus tours which allow you to see the places you're interested in," said Jonathan Marr, 17, a senior from South High School.

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# SPORTS

## Softball success

Ashley Bailey looks to pitch her team all the way to the Western State Conference playoffs

By AUSTEN E. MARSHALL  
Rip staff writer

Returning Bakersfield College softball pitcher Ashley Bailey knows what it feels like to put her all into the sport. After pitching 23 innings in two days, first against Costa, and then against Santa Barbara, she split both games going 1-1, and came away with an awfully sore arm.

The Renegades defeated Costa 4-2 in 12 innings in a make-up game on March 2. The original game was rained out and rescheduled, causing her back-to-back pitching days and another 11 innings in a 2-1 conference loss to Santa Barbara.

"It's a little sore after all that pitching," said Bailey. "I don't think I've ever pitched that many games before, plus I did four games in the tournament so my arm hasn't really recovered yet."

Bailey's dedication to the team is part of the reason the Renegades returned is an All-American, All-State player and has a few looks from schools at the Division I level.

"I may go to this private school in Tennessee, but they don't offer my major, so I'm not sure" said Bailey, who is an agri-

culture major at BC. "Agriculture is something I've been doing since I was a little girl."

"I'd really like to go to Arizona State just because they have a really good softball team, and I've watched and idolized their players for a while."

The Renegade pitcher has had success pitching, as she is 8-2 in her starts, as of Feb. 28, according to the team's Web site.

"I just try to hit my spots and have that look on my face like I can throw whatever I want to throw," said Bailey.

Teammate Keeley Johnson admires Bailey's pitching. "She has this really good, serious look on her face when she's pitching," said Johnson.

Bailey has enjoyed this year's team, and even in the season 5-4 defeat to top-ranked Mt. SAC in the BC Classic Tournament, she was cited with the team's attitude.

"The energy of the team was great, everybody stepped on the field knowing what they needed to do," said Bailey. "Sometimes we go into games overconfident, and we know coming into this game that if we made one mistake, Mt. SAC would capitalize on it."

The Renegades are 11-5 overall and

4-1 in the Western State Conference, not counting a March 8 game against Hancock in Santa Maria.

Although all games on the schedule are important, some Renegade players are looking forward to a doubleheader Thursday afternoon in Santa Clarita against College of the Canyons.

"Bring on the Canyons," said Johnson. "Every year on our side of the WSC (blue division), they always go to the playoffs ahead of us. We're number two and they go as number one. That makes me mad, so I really want to beat them because I'm tired of them going ahead of us."

Bailey agreed. "She's (Johnson) right. We always go into the playoffs under them, so it'd be nice to beat them and get in as number one."

Johnson also had a few choice words in high praise of her team. "I just think we have a really good team. All around, I mean like when you look at my situation, I'm hurt and the girl that is playing for me is doing an awesome job. That seems to be how all of us are this season. We want to win, and we work hard to try and keep our chemistry so we can go to the playoffs and win."

Johnson also had a few choice words in high praise of her team.

"I just think we have a really good team. All around, I mean like when you look at my situation, I'm hurt and the girl that is playing for me is doing an awesome job. That seems to be how all of us are this season. We want to win, and we work hard to try and keep our chemistry so we can go to the playoffs and win."

The Renegades are 11-5 overall and



Softball pitcher Ashley Bailey's dedication to her team is part of the reason she is an All-American, All-State player.

CHRIS WONG / THE RP

## Men's tennis gets win

Renegades beat L.A. Pierce 5-4, improving their record to 4-2 and 2-2 in league.

Bakersfield College men's tennis improved to 4-2 overall, 2-2 league, by beating L.A. Pierce last Thursday 5-4. The singles winners for BC were Jason Broussard, Gate Aguilera and Dominic Cerri.

BC swept Allen Hancock 9-0 March 1. In doubles against Allen Hancock, Broussard and Ryan Shultz beat Ricky Long and Manuel Solano 8-6.

Dominic Cerri and Clark Weathers beat Paul Roman and Alex Martinez 8-0.

### WOMEN'S TENNIS

The BC women's tennis team swept the doubles competition at Santa Monica College March 4. Their record is now 2-3 overall and 2-2 in conference.

### SOFTBALL

Coach Sandi Taylor got her 300th all-time win when Bakersfield College beat L.A. Pierce 8-0 on Feb. 24.

The Renegade softball team went 2-2 at the Buchanan Bash in Fresno. They beat Chabot College 5-3 and Modesto College 5-1.

They lost to Western Oregon 7-4 and Reedley College 1-0.

As of March 7 the Renegade soft-



Bryan Branch leans in for a backhand during his 6-2, 6-2, victory against Allen Hancock's Manuel Solano March 1. The team swept Hancock 9-0.

DENNIS MAHAN / THE RP

ball team record was 11-5 and 4-1 in WSC.

### WOMEN'S TRACK

The Renegades won the WSC Mini-Meet at Citrus College March 5.

BC finished ahead of College of the Canyons, Santa Monica and Citrus.

Brittany Grimes won the 1,500 meter and the 3,000 meter races.

### SPORTS SCHEDULES

#### BASEBALL

- March 10: 2 p.m. at Canyons
- March 17: 2 p.m. vs. L.A. Pierce at Woodland Hills
- March 19: 7 p.m. vs. L.A. Pierce at Bakersfield
- March 22: 2 p.m. vs. Orange Coast at San Marcos
- March 23: 2 p.m. vs. Golden West at San Marcos
- March 24: 10 a.m. vs. Golden West at San Marcos

#### SOFTBALL

- March 10: 1 p.m. vs. Canyons at Santa Clarita (doubleheader)
- March 17: 1 p.m. vs. L.A. Mission at Sylmar (doubleheader)
- March 19-20: BC Classic at Bakersfield
- March 22: 2:30 p.m. vs. Glendale at Bakersfield
- March 24: 1 p.m. vs. L.A. Valley at Van Nuys (doubleheader)

## Basketball team loses playoff game

By CHRISTOPHER W. PISAR  
Rip staff writer

Ashley Nichols scored 22 points and grabbed 10 rebounds, but it wasn't enough to get the Renegades off the road as No. 12 Bakersfield College fell to No. 5 Cypress 78-59 in the first round of the women's basketball Southern California Regionals on Feb. 26.

Sophomore forward Ashlee Klingenberg added 11 points, including three 3-pointers.

Bakersfield College finished the season 18-16 and rebounded to make the postseason after missing the playoffs last year.

Cypress was led by sophomore guard Britanny Smith, who posted a double-double with 13 points and 11 assists. She finished the game just one rebound shy of a triple-double.

Despite the loss, BC head coach Paula Dahl was still upbeat. "I was real pleased with how the team played," she said.

The first half was very close and ended with BC up 52-31.

"(BC showed) great effort rebounding, defensively and were quicker to the ball," said Cypress coach Margaret Mohr of the Renegades play in the first half.

"We took care of the boards and had them on the run, and they're a running team," said Dahl. "It was solid basketball, a real exciting half."

The second half was a different story with the Chargers outscoring BC by 20.

"We just started hitting our shots and we developed some of an inside game with Rosalyn Osoyry," said Mohr. "We did a better job keeping them off the boards."

A run of turnovers by BC in the second half allowed Cypress to build a lead.

With less than eight minutes to go in the game, the Renegades found themselves down by 12.

"In the second half, the shots weren't falling and Taylor (Mispillians) got into foul trouble," said Dahl.

"It was extremely physical with both teams in the second half, and we didn't respond as well as we had previously."

Going into next season, BC will lose four sophomores, most notably star forward Nicole Goss, as well as Taylor Mispillians, Klingenberg, and Nichols.

"We've got a strong recruiting class coming in, but unfortunately at the BC level you never know until September," Dahl said.

One bright spot for the 'Gades is that starting center Sarah Ortiz will most likely be back in uniform next season for the red and white.

"It's been a great season, and I see this year as a great springboard for years to come," said Dahl.

## Baseball team gets eighth win in nine attempts

With win, BC improves to 12-5 overall and 5-1 in Western State Conference.

By CHRISTOPHER W. PISAR  
Rip staff writer

Bakersfield College got its eighth win in nine attempts after beating L.A. Valley 8-7 on March 5 at Gerry Collins Field.

With the victory, the Renegades improved to 12-5 overall and 5-1 in the Western State Conference.

BC took an 8-5 lead into the ninth inning, but Valley scored two runs and was threatening with two on and two outs in the top of the ninth inning.

Freshman right-leader Santos Villanueva got Valley catcher Jordan Wolf to ground out to the shortstop to end the threat and the game.

The Monarchs started the scoring in the first inning with a pair of base

hits by that gave them an early 1-0 lead.

BC answered with five runs in the second inning as they batted around their lineup. First baseman Ross Hoffmann started it off with a single, and scored two singles later to tie it up at 1-1.

That was followed by a double by Richie Newton that drove in two more runs. After infielder Daniel Anaya was hit by a pitch, James Clifford singled in Newton from second. Then Clifford stole second which allowed Anaya to score giving BC a 5-1 lead.

The offenses were silenced for the next four innings as the game turned into a pitching duel between the starters, lefty Matt Garnett and right-hander Jorge Obando.

"I felt like he was in complete control up until the sixth inning," said BC coach Tim Panton of Garnett.

"His velocity is up over his last two starts and he located his change-up the best he had all season."

Until the seventh inning that is, when both teams awakened offensively.

Valley scored three runs on four singles and a base on balls to close the gap to 5-4.

But the Renegades answered back as they manufactured three runs of their own on three walks, a sacrifice bunt, and two singles.

"I felt like the whole team played well," said Panton. "It was an outstanding job by the entire ball club."

The latest victory came amid a long four-game week for the Renegades.

"Our pitching staff was stretched out a little," said Panton of the long week.

"To go 4-0 in that type of week showed that our players played well the entire week."

BC's next game is at 2 p.m. Thursday at College of the Canyons in Valencia, after which they will face L.A. Pierce at Woodland Hills on March 17.



Freshman outfielder Nicho Newton slides into home but was tagged out by L.A. Valley catcher David Perez.



Sophomore left-handed pitcher Matt Garnett grimaces as he throws during a game against L.A. Valley on March 5.

PHOTOS BY IAN HAMILTON / THE RP

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# NEWS

## WELCH: Rocker gives testimony before being baptized in Jordan River



Brian "Head" Welch, who left his famous rock band, Korn, to set an example for his daughter, is greeted with a hug by Senior Pastor Ron Vietti.

DENNIS MAHAN / THE RIP

Continued from Page 1

At the same time, Welch said he was sinking as a person. "I came to a point I didn't want to live." Even after being saved, Welch continued to use methamphetamine. "I came to church on drugs."

Referring to Pastor Vietti, Welch remarked, "This man serves God. Rehab can't cure it, AA can't cure it. I hit rock bottom. Once I came here (holding his bible), just like that."

Welch claims he is dedicated to helping kids and others.

"If a truck is coming, I'll push them out of the way," he said. "I'll take the hit. I don't care. I'll change this world or die trying."

Ashley Allen and Zac Lantz, both 19, drove 2,300 miles from Indiana to attend the service. Lantz said, "Thirty-three hours in a car. It was a long ride, but it was worth it." When Welch heard about their devotion, he jokingly responded, "I guess I owe you gas money."

When asked what he thought about Welch's service, AJ Garza a regular at the church said, "I think he is doing real good. He'll be a good role model. This is not a traditional church. It is a come as you are church."

Jodi Gutierrez, a teenaged Korn fan, said she felt disappointed. "I don't understand. I thought he was happy. I thought it was all about the music. Whatever makes him happy."

BC student Damien Lomack said, "As long as he keeps singing, I'll support his decision." Another BC student, Kaitlyn Hulsey, said, "Korn had its purpose about five years ago. I respect his decision. It is not the most ridiculous reason to leave."

As a final thought, after the church service, Jarrett Bishop, another teen fan who sports a Korn tattoo on his leg, thought it was good. "He's got to do what he's got to do. I am a big fan and still support Korn."

On March 5, Welch was baptized in the Jordan River in Israel by Pastor Vietti.

— Staff member Marilyn Whipkey contributed to this story



DENNIS MAHAN / THE RIP



Above: Welch holds up his Bible during the first of three services at the Valley Bible Fellowship on Feb. 27.

Left: Ashley Allen and Zac Lantz, both 19, drove 2,300 miles from Indiana to see Welch.

MARILYN WHIPKEY / THE RIP



A long line forms at Valley Bible Fellowship for Welch's autograph.

MARILYN WHIPKEY / THE RIP

## PRESIDENT: Andrews grew up on a farm in Iowa

Continued from Page 1

Iowa as a junior and planned on majoring in Spanish and French. Later, he found out that he was not prepared, so he decided to become an English major and got his bachelor's degree. "I didn't really plan on teaching," he said. "I assumed I was going to be drafted, this was during the Vietnam Era. I didn't apply for any jobs."

But Andrews found that he was in demand for a teaching position because many other teachers were

pregnant and positions needed to be filled. "I had about 15 job offers that I didn't apply for," he said.

He taught high school, then later got master's degrees in library science and educational media at Northern Iowa in the late 1970s. He also received his doctorate at New Mexico State University.

He later worked in Minnesota and Texas, and eventually moved to Orange County before ending up as president at Porterville. "You spend half your time working directly with

the institution of the college," he said. "You spend half your time in the community ... building partnerships with the college. It's very important as the president to build those relationships."

Andrews is the father of twin daughters, now 31, and they are both involved in the science fields. His wife is an executive assistant for an oil and gas company.

An interim president position has been opened at Porterville College to replace Andrews.

## TRIP: SGA leaders seek accreditation

Continued from Page 1

Some of the long-term advantages to the trip will be passing down the lessons learned to future administrations so that they can successfully serve the students.

The short-term benefits to the trip that were outlined by Patel would include an immediate interaction with government officials, which, in turn, would establish a relationship with members of government at the national level.

Such an accomplishment, Patel said would in turn give the SGA "connections" for lobbying.

Although, a member passing the test at the conference would be accredited as being a student leader, that person would not be able to credit other students.

Patel said that he hopes that the event will become an annual occurrence so that future students have the opportunity to become endorsed student leaders.

The seven students attending the conference will not be stating viewpoints and positions to legislative bodies (lobbying) of government while in Washington, but they will be learning how to lobby more ef-

fectively and that falls within the parameters of using money from the Student Representation Fee Fund.

According to Turney, four of the seven students attending the trip will not be returning to BC next semester.

However, the SGA made changes to the bylaws in a meeting on March 3 that will move student elections to the first week of April instead of the fall. Turney said that holding the elections earlier will give the current student administration the ability to work with the newly elected administration before they leave office.

## GOVERNOR: Visit greeted by supporters, protesters



Gov. Schwarzenegger hands out "Reform California" fliers while mingling with patrons at Mexicali West restaurant. He is trying to gain signatures to get his reform plans on the election ballot in November.

PHOTOS BY DENNIS MAHAN / THE RIP

Continued from Page 1

needs to be out there to push the initiatives for the things being proposed. I do think that pension reform needs to happen so at the end of the month it doesn't become a blank check in the hands of people. ... With re-districting, I think it's a necessary thing so that more people in California, especially students, can be represented," said Kaitlin Hulsey, 19, vice-chair of the BC Republicans.

The governor's supporters were not the only people present in front of the restaurant.

One Bakersfield police officer was protesting the governor's pension reforms.

"Our pension plans that the governor wants to interfere with and basically abolish are some of the best in the world. ... As far as law enforcement goes, it is one of the last good benefits we have left," said Todd Dickson, 40.

Some people were protesting what they felt the governor was doing to nurse-patient ratios.

"We're here in support of nurse-patient ratios. ... We feel that governor Schwarzenegger has pretty much assaulted our ratios and he's trying to erode the safety net that we put in place for our patients to ensure the safe delivery of high quality patient care," said registered nurse Sandy Redding, who has been in the profession for 22 years.

In a telephone interview with *The Rip*, Assemblywoman Nicole Parra

"Our pension plans that the governor wants to interfere with ... are some of the best in the world."

— Todd Dickson, Bakersfield police officer

(D-Hanford) issued a statement through her press secretary, Mary Gutierrez, saying, "Anytime a governor spends time in the Central Valley it's a good thing. Though I don't agree with the governor's plan to cut education funding, privatize pension funds and implement merit pay, there are many things we do agree on."

When asked what they agreed on, Gutierrez responded, "We need to work on the budget. They might not agree on the specifics, but they do agree that there is a problem."

In a telephone interview with *The Rip*, Assembly Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-Bakersfield) said that the governor's reforms are something that people need to talk about because the Democratic controlled legislature is not taking actions.

He pointed out that the one regarding redistricting will take the politics out of the issue and let the people choose their politicians boundary lines.

Phone calls placed to the office of Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez (D-Los Angeles) were not returned.



Don Nielsen, of Fresno, bangs a tambourine against his shoulder while chanting, "Hands off patient ratios," along with members of the California Nurses Association.



## Local Paradise

English teacher gave up television screenwriting for Bakersfield.

Features, Page 2

## Campus karaoke

With judges acting like Simon, 'BC Idol' imitates national sensation.

Campus, Page 8

## Backhanding their way to victory

Both men's and women's tennis see winning records and recent triumphs.

Sports, Page 9



# THE RENEGADE RIP

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Bakersfield College

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## One Book, One Man

Noted science fiction author Ray Bradbury speaks at East High School in the final event of One Book One Bakersfield.

By DANIELLA WILLIAMS  
Opinion Editor

Legendary author Ray Bradbury shared his passion for writing at East High on Monday night for the final event of One Book One Bakersfield 2005.

Bradbury, author of the reading group's selection "Fahrenheit 451," spoke on his life and experience as a short story writer, novelist, poet and playwright, among other things.

"I think the public was ready to discuss censorship because of 'The Bluest Eye' controversy last year."

— Kristie Coonz,  
co-coordinator  
of One Book One  
Bakersfield

and read the lives of the great authors and see how long it took them to get established, begin to write and be accepted.

Bakersfield College student David Daniels, 19, read "Fahrenheit 451" in high school and wanted to meet the author in person.

"He's packed the entire East High auditorium. He's an awesome author, he's a good storyteller," Daniels said.

Bradbury spoke of his own struggles as a young writer, recounting his meager beginnings with his wife Margarite McClure.

"We lived in a tiny room and paid \$30 a month. We had no telephone. We had no car. But right across the street, there was a gas station (with) a telephone booth. When the telephone rang, I ran over to answer it. The people from MGM and CBS and NBC thought they were calling my home," he said.

Bradbury explained the initial inspiration behind the short story "The Pedestrian," which eventually led to his novel "Fahrenheit 451."

"I had an experience on Wilshire Boul-



CHRIS WONG / THE RIP

Science fiction author Ray Bradbury signs books for his fans during the final event of One Book One Bakersfield on March 28. Bradbury's "Fahrenheit 451" was chosen as this year's book.

vard one night. A police car pulled up. The policeman asked 'What are you doing?' and I said 'Putting one foot in front of the other,' which was the wrong answer," said Bradbury. The policeman told him to "go home and don't do it again." So Bradbury went home and wrote a short story about it.

"About six months later I took my pedestrian out for a walk and he met Clarice McClellan. Nine days later, (it) was finished. That was the first version under the title 'The Fireman,'" he said.

Kristie Coonz, head of community and support services for Kern County Libraries and co-coordinator of One Book One Bakersfield felt the timing of the book's selection was perfect.

"I think the public was ready to discuss censorship because of 'The Bluest Eye' controversy last year," Coonz said.

In 2004, East High was at the epicenter of controversy over the school's reading club selecting Toni Morrison's novel "The Bluest Eye."

"Our community voted on which book to read next. It really struck a chord," said East High library media teacher Dawn Dobie.

Although Bradbury's appearance at the school was not intentional, "it was a happy accident," Dobie said.

Ridgeview High School junior Jennifer Weir, 16, was happy with the selection of Bradbury's work, and found the message to be resonant. "We really need to pay attention to literature or we really will lose ourselves," she said.

## SGA modifies bylaws to aid new officers

Student elections are moved up to the first week in April.

By JOSHUA AYERS  
Rip staff writer

The Student Government Association has made changes in their bylaws that will move student elections to the first week in April in hopes of creating a smooth transition between administrations.

Before the change, student elections were held for two days during the week before finals in the spring semester.

The modification of the by-laws to change the elections schedule was primarily to give the incoming administration an opportunity to learn the aspects of their job responsibilities and to receive direct feedback and critiques from the incumbent administration.

"There's so much to learn," said Dean of Students Don Turney. In addition, Turney said that the process of learning the positions of government took sometimes as long as three to four months before meetings and plans began to fall into place. He has strong feelings that the new method will serve Bakersfield College students' best interests.

SGA Vice President Prayas Patel agrees with Turney and recalled that a majority of the fall semester was spent just learning how to perform his job. With the new election system, the next administration should "hit the ground running," Patel said.

According to Ash West, an honorary adviser to the SGA, the earlier election date will "allow for a longer transition period," and added, "[the SGA] will not be so lost when they take office."

The election schedule will also be held for longer than in previous years. Instead of designating two days during the week for students to vote, the new process will be carried out over four days.

Candidates running for executive positions were required to obtain 50 valid student signatures, and candidates running for representative positions were required to obtain 25 valid student signatures. All candidates were required to submit an elections statement, fill out a brief questionnaire and have a grade point average above 2.0.

"Running is an experience in itself," said West. West mentioned that students who plan on running should be motivated and have time management skills as well as an ambition to make positive changes around the BC campus.

Elections will be held April 4-7 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the foyer of Campus Center. Campaigning began on March 28.

## Lectures highlight sex and politics

By KATHERINE J. WHITE  
Rip staff writer

"Sir, I'm merely waiting for the bus," retorts an unescorted woman to a man's solicitation for sexual services as she stands on a street somewhere in 19th-century England waiting for public transit.

This exchange appeared in an infamous 19th-century cartoon in an issue of the nefarious British magazine Punch, and it describes a typical problem experienced by unattended women, who were assumed to be prostitutes in earlier times. Prostitution was a popular and controversial concern in England in the 19th century and throughout British colonies.

This anecdote was repeated during a lecture titled "Prostitution, Race and Politics" from Dr. Philippe Levine, USC professor and author of "Gender and Empire," on March 8 in Bakersfield College's Fireside Room.

The lecture, which drew a crowd that filled the room, helped kick off Women's History Month. The second lecture celebrating women's history was delivered by Dr. Patricia Cohen, a UC Santa Barbara American history professor, on March 15 in a crowded Forum East. Cohen's lecture was titled "The Underworld of Commercial Sex in 1830s America."

The celebration of women and their history will continue in April at Cal State Bakersfield, with Dr. Dorothy Roberts and her talk on race and reproduction April 11 at CSUB's Dove Theatre and her lecture on social service agencies and African-American Communities April 12 in CSUB's Student Union.

The series will be capped off with Dr. Lillian Faderman's lecture, "Then the Cops Burst in! Police Harassment in 1950s Lesbian Bars" April 28 in CSUB's Albertson Room.

Levine began her lecture by stating, "Sex is a private and public affair," to a packed and intense audience in BC's Fireside Room. She blended women's issues with prostitution, law, race and politics. In-



KATHERINE WHITE / THE RIP

Dr. Patricia Cohen speaks about prostitution in Forum East on March 15. The speech was one of two held at BC in honor of Women's History Month.

cluded colonies in Africa, Singapore, Hong Kong, and India. The use of prostitutes was a common phenomenon among British soldiers since only 6 to 9 percent of them were allowed to marry, not to mention sexually transmitted diseases and certain laws pertaining to prostitutes that did not benefit them in any way, according to Levine.

The British empire needed its military to survive and succeed in all of its conquered territories, and its soldiers contracting STDs was not conducive to achieving that goal, according to Levine. Laws regulating prostitutes and their trade were in order.

Although concubinage, and not masturbation, among the soldiers was encouraged for a time until about 1909, by the mid-19th century, gonorrhea and syphilis were on the rise among soldiers, and cures were not always effective, according to Levine.

In fact, the known cure for STDs in the 1850s, which was mercury, and not penicillin since it had not been invented yet, caused more harm than good.

So, during the 1850s-1860s came the notorious "contagious diseases" acts, which focused on prostitutes and gave rise to another example of the "double standard." From this era came the legal term, "common prostitute," and the acts required prostitutes to submit to genital exams once every two weeks. However, no man was subjected to this biweekly exam.

If a prostitute was found to be suffering from VD, she was promptly incarcerated in a "lock hospital" for nine months. Again, this fate was not endured by the male sufferer. Within the colonies, the population of non-white women, according to Levine, had to register as prostitutes; whether the non-white women were actually prostitutes made absolutely no difference.

In the 19th century, the British empire owned approximately 25 percent of the world's land mass and possessed an army that, according to Levine, was quite "far-flung," throughout the empire, which in-

cluded colonies in Africa, Singapore, Hong Kong, and India. The use of prostitutes was a common phenomenon among British soldiers since only 6 to 9 percent of them were allowed to marry, not to mention sexually transmitted diseases and certain laws pertaining to prostitutes that did not benefit them in any way, according to Levine.

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## Hacking the day away



DENNIS MAHAN / THE RIP

Tanya Darapiza, a 19-year-old fine arts major, plays hacky sack with friends under the canopy in Campus Center on March 17.

# Chevrolet introduces Cobalt SS

By BRYSON PAUL  
Rip staff writer

Speedy and affordable summarizes the new "IT" car for 2005, and Chevrolet has given birth to a new series: the Cobalt SS. Chevy pulls out all the stops and loads the new prize car with plenty of satisfying accessories. Everything about the vehicle's features are unique or curious and people will be sold by its standards alone. The one piece of information that will please an interested buyer is the speed and power this compact coupe holds. The Cobalt SS is different from anything Chevy has ever produced.

The Cobalt is a mixture of a Corvette's sex appeal and a Cavalier's roomy comfortable space. Little modifications are needed for aftermarket because Chevy piles on the goods, with 18-inch aluminum alloy stock rims, jewel tail lamps and halogen lamps. The dressing for the Cobalt SS is like a kid's first day of school: outstanding, with colors like Victory Red, Rally Yellow, Sunburst Orange and Metallic Blue. However, beauty is only skin deep. It's the inside that counts.

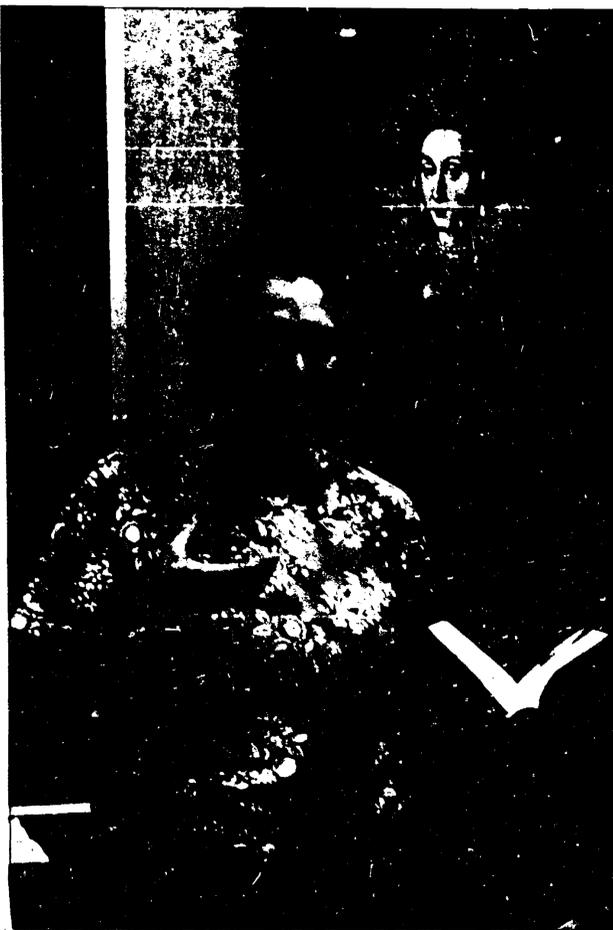
Picture the Incredible Hulk and his alter ego Bruce Banner. Cobalt SS is much similar to Banner when turned off, nothing too special or fearless; however, when the key hits the ignition and fires up, a transformation takes place, and a feeling of tremendous power and freedom is unleashed. That feeling is the 205-horsepower, 200-pound torque super-charged engine.

The driver will be able to experience freedom with the tight grip and feet pounding clutch and shifting stick gears as they take a spin in this unquestionable force of maximum adrenaline of five-speed manual transmission.

Safety and comfort is also standard with the Cobalt. The 2005 SS has four-wheel anti-lock disc brakes, incredible suspension, and impressive handling and maneuvering.

Leather bucket seats and power lock everything electronics make the ride pure comfortable enjoyment. The only adjustments made by hand are the manual rotation of seats and how far away we would like to be from the intensity.

The car is priced at \$21,995. Once test driven, customers will leave either with the Cobalt or leave with the craving of wanting the car.



PHOTOS BY JACQUELINE WHITE / THE RIP

Above: BC English professor Cynthia Paradise reads to her African-American Literature night class.

Right: Paradise, right, shares an African-American Literature class with her brother, David Moton, who gets a kick out of buying her "Blossom" dolls every chance he gets.



# Paradise finds Utopia

BC professor Cynthia Paradise explains going from TV writer to teacher

By GINA MENDOZA  
Rip staff writer

People sometimes wonder how those who make it to the big time get their big break. For English professor Cynthia Paradise, it all began with a writing contest.

While attending Cal State Bakersfield in the late '80s, Paradise entered a screenwriting contest. She wrote a screenplay for the TV drama "21 Jump Street" starring Johnny Depp. "That screenplay beat out 4,000 other applications," Paradise said. "That ought to attest to my Cal State education."

Paradise was one of two winners, and she was offered a potential three-year contract with Disney. After weighing her options, she decided against continuing college and moved to the Los Angeles area to work for Disney.

She began work writing for the teen drama, "Hull High." The show, however, quickly went off the air, and after six months Paradise was moved to write for the sitcom-comedy "Blossom," where she stayed for another six months.

At the end of that year, Disney offered Paradise a spot as a writer on a list of all-ages that included "Empty Nest," "Blossom," and "The Golden Girls." Paradise turned down the offer and moved back to Bakersfield where she finished work on her master's degree at CSUB.

Shortly after that Paradise was hired part time by the English Department at Bakersfield College, and she has been here ever since. Although she was born in Detroit, her family moved to Bakersfield when she was young, and over time she has taken a liking to the city.

"Bakersfield is my security blanket," she said. "My family moved away when I was in the 11th grade, and I stayed here by myself. I just like the town."

This semester, Paradise is teaching 17 units in English.

"The best part of my job is the student interaction," Paradise said. "It certainly is not the grading!"

She mainly sticks to teaching composition, but she also teams up with her brother, David Moton, who is also a BC English professor, to teach African-American Literature.

"He's my officemate for now, and he is the one who thinks it is so funny to keep ordering every 'Blossom' doll that he can find for me and put them up on my side of the office," Paradise said.

Paradise teaches late afternoon and evening classes, and she says she likes it that way because she doesn't go to bed until really late most of the time.

As far as future goals, Paradise is not sure what she wants to do, but she does know it will involve writing.

"I am very content right now, but I would like to do more writing," Paradise said. "I've written a novel and a movie-length screenplay just to get the formulas down, and maybe in the future I'll pursue that more."

After all that she has accomplished, Paradise said the one thing that she would like to be remembered for has nothing to do with teaching or writing.

"I have four nephews, one niece and I am adopting a son, and the one thing in life that I would like to be remembered for is my mothering," she said.

Paradise endured 10 separate surgeries between the ages of 20 and 30, and therefore, she is unable to have any children of her own.

"The one thing I wanted to be was a mother," she said. "Isn't it ironic how things turn out?"

Paradise has gone from West High to Bakersfield College to CSUB — where she obtained her bachelor's degrees in sociology and English, and a master's degree in English with minors in religious study, psychology, and philosophy. Paradise told of her secret to success.

"To be successful, it is about how you market yourself," she said. "I think I won that contest because I had a good cover letter, and everything that I needed to know to produce that screenplay I learned in English 1A: format, how to mimic a style, research, and how to stylize."

# Sequel isn't what it should be

By DOTTY BURNS  
Rip staff writer

For those of you who are new to the premise of "The Ring," it is a horror/mystery about a possessed videotape, in which a viewer only has seven days to live after watching it.

## MOVIE REVIEW

Only a few minutes into the 2002 film "The Ring," heroine Rachel Keller (Naomi Watts) attempts to uncover the mystery surrounding her niece's bizarre death.

As she seeks out a rational explanation for the teenage girl's death, she watches the eerie videotape. After viewing, Rachel is immediately plagued by strange occurrences, and soon finds herself trying to evade the same dark fate.

The second installment, "The Ring Two," picks back up with the same characters from the first movie. Rachel, the journalist who confronted the dark entity in the first movie, moves from Seattle to the quaint coastal town of Astoria, Ore., where she and son Aidan (David Dorfman) attempt to restore their blissful lives.

It's easy to become confused in the first few minutes if you haven't watched the first movie. For instance, after Rachel destroys a copy of the cursed videotape, she and her son are suddenly tormented by the mysterious ghost Samara. Of course, one suspects she might be the menacing evil that is embedded within the reel of film. The pale and disheveled little girl lurks around Aidan and eventually possess him.

As Rachel attempts to defend her son, the movie starts to heavily derail. The words "what is this?"



Samara, played by Chase, crawls out of her watery grave in "The Ring Two," sequel to the 2002 smash hit.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DREAMWORKS PICTURES

might burst out of your mouth at this point, especially if you had enjoyed the first film. With a well-crafted story and the evidently talented director, Gore Verbinski, at the wheel the result was a cerebral and haunting film that the second film can't match.

In the first movie, the lighting, the wraithlike images and the mood conspired to create a sense of danger that few horror films can live up to. The fact that you actually watched what was on this fateful tape was also an unusual clincher.

In the second film, Rachel is ridiculously fending off a ghost. It was a much more intriguing venture when she was trying to solve a macabre mystery. The second film does, however, have a few of the savory features that the first had, such as a few ghostly images and a riveting score, but it falls short of the type of splendor the first movie offered its audience.

Although the second film can provide the audience with a few cheap jolts, such as when dozens of stags suddenly attack Rachel's car, its lousy treatment of the plot and cinema mechanics make it as much of a waste of film as those kill-'em-all slashers.

played by comedian Cedric The Entertainer, and his "wife's cousin," trigger-happy gangster rapper Dabu, played by rapper Outkast's Big Boi.

Dabu steals attention every time he appears on screen with his outrageous one-liners and his obsession with busting a cap in someone daily. If that wasn't funny enough, throw in a gay bodyguard, Elliot Wilhelm, looking to be a movie star surprisingly played by pro wrestler/action star Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson ("The Rundown," "Walking Tall"). His "Bring it On" piece will have audiences rolling on the ground with laughter.

Director F. Gary Gary ("The Italian Job") brings together the wonderful and brilliantly selected cast of megastars and introduces the new faces of Hollywood.

It's great how Gary takes his time on every character in the movie, giving each his or her own detailed

# Big stars, supporting actors make for a good time with 'Be Cool'

By BRYSON PAUL  
Rip staff writer

Chili Palmer is back and even more of a wise guy in Metro's "Be Cool," which is the sequel to the 1995 comedy hit "Get Shorty."

## MOVIE REVIEW

The movie picks up with Palmer, played by John Travolta, as a now very successful director in the movie business. He's looking to expand his success and branch out into the music business.

The further Palmer becomes involved in the music business, the more he finds it's crazy based on his dealings with all the diverse characters. Through it all, Palmer tries to save a record label and launch the career of a superstar, all the while dealing with Russians, shady record executives and police.

Beautiful is one word to describe the women in "Be Cool," from the inspiring singer Linda Moon, played by singer/actress Christina Milian ("Torque"), to the tiny bikini wearing label owner Edie, played by sensational actress Uma Thurman ("Kill Bill"). Men will drool at the introduction scene of Thurman's character, who reveals herself while lying in the sun.

Women will be wooed by Travolta's smooth talk, stone-cold facial features and hypnotizing blue eyes. Men will be convinced after all these years, Mr. "Saturday Night Fever" still has the moves, which is confirmed in a dance number that takes place between Palmer and Edie.

Audiences will enjoy the magic moments of the developing romance between the two main characters; however, the comical supporting cast really seals the film.

Some of those characters are educated rival label owner Sin La Salle,

played by comedian Cedric The Entertainer, and his "wife's cousin," trigger-happy gangster rapper Dabu, played by rapper Outkast's Big Boi.

Dabu steals attention every time he appears on screen with his outrageous one-liners and his obsession with busting a cap in someone daily. If that wasn't funny enough, throw in a gay bodyguard, Elliot Wilhelm, looking to be a movie star surprisingly played by pro wrestler/action star Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson ("The Rundown," "Walking Tall"). His "Bring it On" piece will have audiences rolling on the ground with laughter.

Director F. Gary Gary ("The Italian Job") brings together the wonderful and brilliantly selected cast of megastars and introduces the new faces of Hollywood.

It's great how Gary takes his time on every character in the movie, giving each his or her own detailed

background and personal involvement to the main plot.

People won't be able to stop repeating the funny phrases they pick up in the movie from the variety of hilarious characters.

However, the plot is too predictable and simple; girl wants to be famous, manager looking for a star, competition tries to take the star but is unsuccessful, and boom! Manager makes the girl a superstar overnight and lives happily ever after.

However, "Be Cool" is a great film and will have audiences looking for a third installment and the return of their favorite characters.

# Rock groups compete at Battle of the Bands

Montgomery World Plaza gives local bands the opportunity to compete for a spot at Freakfest 2005.

By ROBIN JONES  
Rip staff writer

There were flashes of green and black on St. Patrick's Day at the Montgomery World Plaza as local acts took part in the Battle of the Bands.

Each week, the Battle of the Bands showcases the talents of local rock groups, giving them the chance to open for the Freakfest 2005 music festival.

On the bill this particular night were Exithead, Just Plain Morning and Grammercy Riff. Local punk group, The Filthies, also performed as a special guest.

It was the competing, though, that received much of the attention. Kernville band, Exithead, kicked off the battle.

Just added to the show at the last minute, Exithead pulled in a crowd to listen to its hard rock sound. Perhaps the band was just warming the crowd up for what was to happen later that night.

Just Plain Morning followed as the crowds began to flood in more. The band kept the same

The winner of the Battle of the Bands could receive a spot to open for already famous Bakersfield band, Adema.

momentum as Exithead, playing a heavier sound and causing some spectators to attempt mooshing.

This was all happening as Just Plain Morning played until sweat drenched their faces.

It was Grammercy Riff, however, that won the Battle of the Bands. When asked if the right band had won, fan Nicole Chavez said, "I've seen these guys play a lot," said Chavez, 18. "It's good that they're being recognized like this."

Grammercy Riff will now compete in the semifinals, which start Thursday night. The finals, themselves, will start just weeks before Freakfest, which is why the bands are really competing.

The winner of the Battle of the Bands could receive a spot to open for already famous Bakersfield band, Adema.

Meanwhile, locally famous punk band, The Filthies, managed to steal some of the show. At one point, they even managed to pull out an Irish flute during their set to help top off St. Patrick's Day festivities.



John Funk of Exithead prepares his drum set before the band's performance.

## BC BRAINS

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



Joe Ramirez, biology: "To exaggerate"



Alma Baston, nursing: "I don't know, letting off some steam."



Sarah Kay, history: "I don't freakin' know."



Ray Menden, fire technician: "To be overreacted."



Eva Vaca, criminal justice: "Probably something that has been destroyed."



Gustavo Arullan, history: "Well, it sounds very social."

What is exacerbate?

Compiled by Veronica Ann Navarro / The Rip

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# Mail rebates baffle consumer

■ Cash saved on refunds not worth the paper work, time commitment and phone calls.

By PHILLIP G. KOPP  
Features Editor

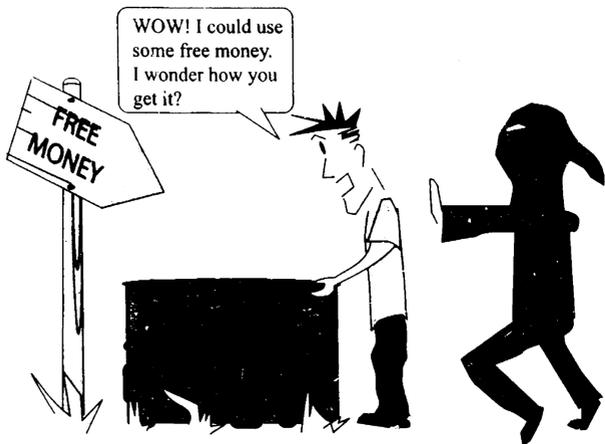
Being your average broke consumer, I search for deals everywhere I turn. I shop on eBay.com and Amazon.com so much they've become part of my homepage. Naturally, like most people, I've been suckered in by the biggest legal scam to ever grace your local, big chain merchant: the mail-in rebate.

I remember the day that I turned from happy discount shopper to confused victim. I went to Best Buy to purchase a laptop for my wife that I had been saving for since last year. I had been searching ad after ad to find a reliable computer that had a decent warranty to go with a good product. I came across an ad that shouted a price of \$799, and it came with every port and plug that I needed.

As I got help from the courteous salesperson, who doesn't work on commission but constantly encouraged me to buy more accessories, I discovered that the price of the laptop was not the \$799 I saw, but \$1,099. Trying to clear up the confusion, the salesperson assured me that the \$799 price was correct, after six mail-in rebates.

I stared at the Best Buy employee as if he just farted the national anthem. I asked what a mail-in rebate was and how does it work. Apparently, big corporations got a great idea that, instead of marking down prices, they would have consumers pay full price and then have customers send in forms to receive a check making up for the mark down.

So I had to pay full price for the laptop and then would have to go through a rigorous process



PHILLIP G. KOPP / THE RIP

of copying the product's UPC code and filling out separate forms for each rebate. All the forms were printed out with the receipt but no copies of the barcode. I had to do that on my own. The rebates ranged from \$100 and \$10 and take eight weeks to process.

After the all the rebates had been sent out, I waited patiently for the cash to come rolling back. Three weeks turned to eight, which turned to 10 and so on. After being extremely patient, I received a letter stating that my rebates were void and could not be processed because I returned the item. Unless my wife had magically pulled an identical laptop out of her ass and returned the other to pocket the cash, a horrible mistake had been made.

I quickly dialed the customer ser-

vice number on the letter and was told that none of my rebate information was even in their system. I talked with one representative after another until I was given new rebates and had to go through the process all over again. This time I had to include a letter explaining my case and had to fax them over immediately.

Once again, I waited and still my mailbox did not flow with the riches I so hoped for. I called again to see if everything was still in order and there had been some mishap with the case. I was given newer rebates and had to fax all the information all over again. This time I was sure that everything would work out. Unfortunately, the only thing that ever worked out for me was becoming a trophy husband. It's a sweet deal,

but I'll talk about that later. History repeated itself, and I still did not get my rebates. I was starting to wonder if the hassle was even worth the trouble. I called to check on my rebate status, and the nice lady on the phone said to call back again in a week. So I did and still they had no record of anything. This time I just simply threatened them with filing a complaint to the Better Business Bureau and hung up. Some people may ask why companies do mail-in rebates in the first place. Well, it's obvious: Most people won't bother with it and those who do will be driven insane to the point of constant rambling on public buses.

That homeless person isn't crazy. He just felt victim to the monster of the mail-in rebate.

# Despite legality, pot still a danger

By DOTTY BURNS  
Rip staff writer

As a result of recent articles in the *Renegade Rip* on March 9, medicinal marijuana use has been a very popular topic for the last month on the Bakersfield College campus.

Well, I am sorry to spoil the party, but marijuana should not be used to treat minor illnesses. I can't entirely disapprove the idea of prying open the door of drug legalization for the sick and the dying. However, I don't necessarily understand how an illicit drug that causes neurological defects could really help anyone. But for those who spend their numbered days in agony, and regard "getting high" as one of their last comforts, by all means they should be the restricted few who should have access to medicinal marijuana.

Until recently I had never had any strong beliefs regarding medicinal marijuana until I ran into so many bizarre cases on the subject. About a month ago, I overheard a haggard middle-aged woman vehemently talking to another student about her experience with medicinal marijuana. The woman dispensed a long and heart-wrenching saga about how she had to combat illness, and how society has unreasonably prosecuted her for her marijuana use.

Although she never stated exactly how the hallucinogenic drug reduced her pain, the woman so adamantly supported the use of medicinal marijuana I was halfway convinced that indeed society had unduly mistreated her.

However, when she mentioned her serious ailment, my jaw nearly dropped in disappointment. I was expecting her to tell the student that she was battling cancer, or had a terminal illness. The woman claimed that she was suffering from "sinusitis," "arthritis" and "osteoarthritis."

While those are terrible conditions that do need serious medical treatment, I don't understand how a hallucinogenic drug can help. For the last month staff members of the

*Rip* have produced some very interesting stories, with the same kind of heart-felt testimonies that the woman produced.

Some of their alleged conditions I found even more shocking than the woman's, which were "headaches," "sciatica" and "Attention Hyperactive Disorder."

Regardless of the way the infirmed and the dying seek out relief, cannabis is hazardous to the health of "cannabis medicators." Cannabis contains psychoactive components that can cause subtle impairment and some long-term damage. The most effecting ingredient is tetrahydrocannabinol (THC).

According to John Witton of the National Addiction Center, evidence has shown that THC has a profound effect on mental health, causing amnesia, delusions, tremors and anxiety. A technical paper published by Drug Scope, claimed the THC causes neurological damage by depleting blood supply to the brain, which in affect leads to psychological disorders.

I have 70% deficit in auditory memory, severe dyslexia, Attention Deficit Disorder and clinical depression. And I'm sure Cheech and Chong medicinal marijuana users would probably be able to direct me to the right places if I felt compelled to use illicit drugs.

Personally, I've never smoked a joint. It's not because I've never had the opportunity. I didn't turn down offers in high school to try marijuana because I had knowledge of proven facts.

The "potheads" who attended my high school were a handful of degenerates, flaunting their criminal record, as well as their poor grades. When the day came when they intercepted my walk home, offering me a joint, I quickly turned down their offer because I didn't want to reduce myself to what most people regard as a "loser."

I know these so-called "cannabis medicators" loathe the term "pothead," but in lieu of reality, wouldn't "pothead" be the accurate term?

# Campus helpers called 'low risk'

■ Juvenile workers have performed court ordered community service on the BC campus for over 10 years.

By MARILYN WHIPKEY  
Rip staff writer

The Kern County Probation Department has had supervised juvenile workers doing community service at Bakersfield College for over 10 years, according to Bob Day, director of Maintenance and Operations.

He said the workers are usually

on campus twice a week and mainly work in the stadium area. They come all year except in the cold or rainy weather.

The workers wear orange suits and are mostly male, but co-ed work gangs have been on campus at times, according to Day.

Those who are in the facility don't work on the outside. The workers at BC come from the Juvenile Work Program.

There are almost 600 juveniles in the program that are from Kern County. They are from surrounding areas such as Shafter, Delano and Bakersfield, according to group

counselor Robert Maidment. They are not working because they have done serious crimes. They are doing court ordered community service due to minor violations.

"They are here from speeding to assault," said Maidment. "They are usually first time offenders."

The only problem BC has had with any of the workers on campus is when they have taken the sprinklers apart, according to Day.

"They are low risk, they're not hardcore criminals," Day said.

"They really don't pose any kind of threat to the campus or the stu-

dents." It is helpful having the juveniles come to BC to do community service because they take care of minor things on campus on a weekly basis, according to Day.

"By having the community workers help, it gives our guys more time to do crucial things," Day said.

After a football game, the stadium is cleaned up by the juveniles, which helps save the college several hundred dollars a game, according to Tim Carroll, site operations coordinator.

"The grounds person really appreciates their help," Carroll said.



Juvenile workers pull weeds in the BC stadium as part of their work program.

MARILYN WHIPKEY / THE RIP

# Pipin' up school spirit



DENNIS MAHAN / THE RIP

Cameron Jones, 15, a sophomore at Highland High School, tunes his bagpipe on the BC campus before his school's swim meet on St. Patrick's Day.

# Folsom Prison project inmates provide services to colleges

By KATHERINE J. WHITE  
Rip staff writer

The calculus textbook you are currently studying may have been compiled by a felon.

You may also want to thank a prison inmate the next time you find a classroom by using a college campus map.

Those are some of the many services rendered as part of Folsom Prison's "Project for the Visually

Impaired," according to Officer Bob Schmitz. California's Folsom Prison project, in conjunction with the California Departments of Corrections, Rehabilitation and Education, as well as the Lion's Club, also produces Braille maps and closed-captioning text for films that are used at various community colleges.

The project also produces computer programs specially designed to "speak" to the visually impaired.

Folsom's project serves 109 California community colleges, as well as many California state government agencies and schools.

The services are rendered at no cost to the agencies, schools and colleges, although the institutions must pay for paper and equipment used by the inmates.

Folsom's project has saved hundreds of thousands of dollars for the institutions, Schmitz said. In fact, Folsom's project has "saved millions of dollars over several years" for

many institutions, he said. Folsom's project employs a "very proactive approach to meeting the needs of schools and colleges," Schmitz said.

The production rate, according to Schmitz, is often "way ahead, before any need arises."

Currently, 18 inmates participate in the project, Schmitz said. Inmates considered for the program submit to a battery of tests for reading, writing and math skills, as well as punctua-

tion, proofreading and typing skills. Those who work in the program commonly render 14 hours a day of work on the project.

"Most of my inmates (in the program) are extremely bright, some have photographic memories and some have some college education," Schmitz said.

Many of the project's participating inmates are certified in textbook formatting for literary Braille, math and science, and Braille music.

"There are only 18 certified Braille music transcribers working in the U.S.," Schmitz said. "There are two at Folsom."

Schmitz, a graduate of Long Beach Community College, stated that he was always "very impressed" by California's community college system, and that he traveled from the Midwest to California to go to community college because of the lack of community colleges in his area at the time.

# Plan ahead to avoid Schiavo dilemma

By BECKY JIMENEZ  
Rip staff writer

Medical technology has had a great effect on our society today in regards to dying and death. Technology has allowed the use of certain procedures even when success or a cure is unlikely. We have now accepted the attitude that "what can be done, should be done."

This clearly seems to be the case in Florida.

A recent Florida case has people speculating whether it is ethical to determine when death is an acceptable option. Terry Schiavo has been in a vegetative state since 1990 after a heart attack. Since then, she has been kept alive on life support and fed through a feeding tube.

Terry's feeding tube was removed on March 18. In spite of this, lawyers for the House of Representatives filed an appeal with the U.S. Supreme Court to intervene in the case.

This particular family case has now

risen to a political spectacle. Florida Governor Bush, President Bush and Congress accelerated the legal process and presented the federal courts to review Schiavo's case.

However, the appeal was denied. Federal judges from both Tampa and the Supreme Court refused to intervene in the ruling of a state Pinellas Circuit Court judge.

The removal of the feeding tube will cause her to starve to death.

Terry's husband claims that his wife's wishes were not to be kept alive. However, Terry's parents disagree with their son-in-law because they don't think his concern is in Terry's best interest, but rather his own.

Michael Schiavo is a perfect example of how controversial a "loving" husband can be. His judgment as a husband is not solely credible because he will inherit, upon his wife's death, a large malpractice settlement. He has also been in a relationship with another woman since the "vegetative state of his wife.

However, it is a fact that if you're married, your spouse has all control over what happens to your body whether it may be medical treatment or disposition.

The law states that you solely control in your spouse to choose what is best for you in case of unconsciousness.

This particular law can become a really scary thing if you do not exclusively trust your significant other. Therefore, it is extremely important to know what measure can be taken in order to avoid such a controversial situation.

In the state of California, we have widely accepted a form called Advanced Health Care Directive. This form consists of four different parts. Part 1 "lets you name another individual as an agent to make health care decisions for you if you become incapable of making your own decisions or if you want someone else to make those decisions for you now even though you are still capable."

Part 2 "lets you give specific instructions about any aspect of your health care, whether or not you appoint an agent. Choices are provided for you to express your wishes regarding the provisions, withholding, or withdrawal of treatment to keep you alive, as well as the provision of pain relief."

Part 3 "lets you express an intention to donate your bodily organs and tissues following your death."

Part 4 "let you designate a physician to have primary responsibility for your health care."

It is cases like Schiavo that shed light on issues that we should all be sitting down and discussing. Obtaining a California Advanced Health Care Directive would be a prudent thing to do just in case we are ever found in a similar situation.

It is extremely important to sit down with your loved ones and specifically list the procedures that should be taken if we are ever found in a state of unconsciousness.

# LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Stereotyping goes both ways

Editor:

I am writing this in response to author Phillip Kopp's recent article regarding his struggles with smoking medicinal marijuana. I have held a friendship with the author for the past year, and I was let down when the article made no mention of the author's own personal struggle with marijuana before getting medical authorization.

In the interest of responsible journalism, I was puzzled when the article gave off the vibe of Phil miraculously finding an aid in medicinal marijuana when all other options were exhausted. In reality, Phil had had a past of smoking pot as a method of dealing with his personal problems. This is his own private battle, and I respect him for dealing with it well.

However, in the article he complained of the "conservative" belief that people who smoke medicinal marijuana are simply potheads. This is just not true. The reality is that college students, conservative and liberal alike, are sick of seeing their friends ruining their educational futures and livelihoods at the expense of pot addiction.

I am currently chair of College Republicans at Bakersfield College, and I greatly respect individuals who have medical license to ease their suffering via cannabis. However, if members of my political party are going to be stereotyped, I would urge that the accuser would look in his own personal mirror before casting judgment.

Kaitlin Husky  
BC student

# 'GADE FEEDBACK

What do you think of medicinal marijuana use?



Jacob Irwin, general ed.: "People use it as an excuse to smoke pot in a way... there are other remedies to headaches."



Cat Little, liberal arts: "It is OK if you only use it for medical, but it shouldn't be legal for everyone."



Mario Gonzalez, undeclared: "If you are in that much pain and you need it, I guess it's good for you."



Kim Ferrer, nursing: "I think it is OK as long as it is for medical purposes only, but not for personal reasons."



Mark Bernasconi: "I approve of medical marijuana. I have my card."



James Blum, nursing: "If it's needed its fine, but if it's someone that is over abusing it then that is not OK."

Compiled by Ximena Benitez / The Rip



Winner of the 2003 JACC Pacemaker Award

The *Renegade Rip* is produced by Bakersfield College journalism classes, printed by Bakersfield Envelope & Printing Co., Inc., and circulated on Wednesdays during the fall and spring semesters.

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Letters should not exceed 300 words, must be accompanied by a signature and the letter writer's identity must be verified with a photo ID.

The *Rip* reserves the right to edit letters, however, writers will be given the opportunity to revise lengthy or unacceptable submissions.

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.

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# NEWS



Marilyn Moore, a 75-year-old student, works out during her adaptive physical education class.

## NEWS BRIEFS

**Tenth annual Scottish Gathering & Games set for April 2**  
The 10th Annual Scottish Gathering & Games will take place April 2 at Stranler Park.

Entertainment will consist of various groups, such as American Jousting Alliance, Cape Breton Step Dancers, Kern County Scottish County Dancers, The Society for Creative Anachronism, Tehnaght Mountain Pipes & Drums, and many more.

General admission is \$15, \$12 for seniors, \$10 for military in uniform, and free for children 12 and under when accompanied by a paid adult.

**Thirty-six teams prepare for annual 24-Hour Relay**

Kern County's Annual 24-Hour Relay Challenge is scheduled to take place on April 16-17 at Bakersfield College Memorial Stadium. This year, 24 school teams and 12 community teams will be participating. Each team is composed of 10 participants and each participant walks/runs one mile per turn.

All proceeds raised will benefit Friday Night Live, Club Live and various Peer Helping programs that benefit youth involvement in Kern County middle and high schools.

Entertainment will consist of various all-day activities, such as volleyball, basketball, water balloon toss, eating contests and karaoke. The public is welcome to attend free of charge.

**Cesar Chavez Memorial scheduled for March 31 in the Fireside room**

A Cesar Chavez Memorial will be recognized from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

March 31 at the Bakersfield College Fireside Room. Mayor Harvey Hall will present a Cesar Chavez proclamation; Jess Nieto, founder of Heritage of America, will serve as speaker; and BC M.E.Ch.A. will plant a tree in honor of

Chavez.

**The BC Jazz Ensemble presents "Swing In Spring" April 6**  
The Bakersfield Jazz Ensemble presents "Swing In Spring" on April 6 at 7:30 p.m. in the BC Indoor Theater. Cost is \$10 for general admission, and \$5 for students and senior citizens. The program will be directed

by Kris Tiner and will feature BC's student musicians, who will be performing new works for jazz ensemble by noted Los Angeles composers Andrew Durkin and Bill Clark, as well as big band music by many jazz greats including Oliver Nelson, Duke Ellington, Freddie Hubbard, Charles Mingus, Maynard Ferguson, and more. For more information contact 395-4621.

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## Age proves no obstacle for learning new things

By MARILYN WHIPKEY  
Rip staff writer

Typically, Bakersfield College students on campus are in the age range of 19 to 24 years old. Then there's the exception of the older student. Statistics show the largest percentage of older students range between 40 to 49 years old, according to a BC college report provided by Lisa Fitzgerald of the Institutional Research and Learning Office.

Leamell King, 55, has been a BC student for 3 1/2 years and is going for a degree in Administrative Justice. She had begun college after raising her children.

After going through a court case and having it dismissed, King gained inspiration to go to college so she could learn to better express herself if put in that type of a situation again.

"They say trial and error makes a better person of you if you have the knowledge behind you," she said.

King will also be receiving a Certificate of Completion in Business Communication, which is a new certificate program that started this semester. Any student who completes 12 units of Communication classes will receive a certificate in the new program.

Jake Davis, 46, culinary arts major, began attending BC to better his chances for a prosperous future. Davis plans to own his own business someday.

"I came back to school to further my education," Davis said. "I wanted to come to cook, to be a chef."

Davis said working too much in the past is what kept him from attending college before now. He attends college full time and works two jobs on campus to help him in furthering his education.

Carol Dill, 45, majoring in human services, is close to receiving her AA degree. She had a serious drug habit

in the past and feels God has gotten her in a better place.

"Where my life changed, was because of God," Dill said.

Dill said that when she was on drugs, she felt students and anyone with power was a threat to her, like she didn't measure up to them. Now, after going to college and communicating well with her professors, Dill said she feels better about herself.

Dill wants to help people in the community, especially children, who are having problems with drugs, and in the future, would like to become a substance-abuse counselor.

Annette Phillips, 46, had also been on drugs in the past. She decided to go back to school, after seeing that she wasn't setting a very good example for her daughter.

"My husband was an alcoholic, I was on drugs and it was like, 'Who's raising my daughter?'" she said.

She decided to improve her options by going to college and is now working toward a degree in psychology.

Phillips said going back to school herself has inspired her daughter to better her own future. She is now a cosmetologist.

Phillips hopes to possibly get a job at the Delano prison, working to help others as well. She said she hopes to help people who take too many anti-depressant drugs. She feels some are over-medicated.

The percentage of students 50 years and older, drops down below half of the percentage of students at-

tending who are 40 to 49 years old, according to the BC report. Also, the largest majority of students attending are enrolled in less than six units a semester.

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## NORML to host series of events

Bakersfield College student group NORML has several events coming up.

NORML will be holding a Tax and Regulate Marijuana demonstration on April 15 at the Pegasus Post Office, which is located at 3400 Pegasus Drive in Bakersfield.

The event will be held at 4 p.m. bring your own signs or signs will be provided.

A rally will be held in honor of BC student Bethany Johnson on April 19 at the Liberty Bell on the corner of Chester Ave. and Truxton Ave. outside the juvenile Courthouse.

The group will hold a benefit concert at the Empty Space Theatre at 706 Oak Street on April 20. \$5.00 entry and free NORML giveaways.

NORML will also be at "The Relay for Life American Cancer Society Fundraiser" April 30 through May 1 at CSUB.

For more information or to donate to Relay for Life please e-mail Morgan at bakersfieldcollegenorml@yahoo.com.

# NEWS

## Student e-mail not at risk

By STEVEN MARTIN  
Online Editor

Bakersfield College students do not need to fear losing their on-campus e-mails.

BC's Information Systems and Instructional Technology committee has been trying to come up with a solution to the student e-mail issue since the early part of last year. The situation started when the Kern Community College District requested that BC review the students' e-mail account usage.

The problem was compounded by the fact that the software that BC uses to run the student e-mail accounts is no longer supported because the company that created it has gone out of business and that the computer that is being used as a server for the e-mail accounts is in serious jeopardy of malfunctioning or breaking down altogether.

BC is the only college in the district — which includes Cerro Coso and Porterville — that provides its students with e-mail accounts.

On last fall's Homecoming ballot for king and queen, two questions were added. They were "Do you use your BC e-mail account?" and "Should BC continue to offer free e-mail to students?" Two-hundred eighty-four students voted, with both questions receiving a yes majority.

"It's interesting that only a little over half the students use the e-mail accounts, but almost everybody says to keep them," said Don Turney, dean of students.

There are currently 16,000 students enrolled at B.C. and as of Jan. 21, there were 9,041 active student e-mail accounts with only 254 of those

accounts being accessed at least once in the last 30 days.

Jules Esch who teaches classes at the Delano campus, encourages her students to use the e-mail accounts because it helps in the educational process by providing her students another way to contact her if they have questions regarding her instruction.

The student e-mail accounts are funded by the district at a cost of about \$30,000 a year. This money is not transferable, meaning that if the college did cancel the student e-mail accounts the money would return to the district and would not be kept by the college.

BC has looked into several options to solve this problem. Some alternatives reviewed were outsourcing the management of the e-mail service and using a private e-mail service such as hotmail.

## CONFERENCES: History experts lecture at BC

Continued from Page 1  
historian who gets her hands dirty" doing extensive and exhaustive research by delving into personal letters, diaries, newspaper archives and the like.

Co-author of the text, "American Promise," Cohen's lecture focused on the sensational murder of prostitute Helen Jewett, which occurred in the 1830s in New York.

Cohen's discovery of the Jewett murder was serendipitous; Cohen happened to be in the Northeast, in a library archive, in the late 1980s, scavenging for pamphlets that circulated during the 19th century.

Looking specifically for women's names in the publications, she chanced upon a massive periodical that trumpeted the heinous act murder of the 23-year-old Jewett.

The trial documents and indictment papers Cohen found at the municipal archives fascinated Cohen, as well as the lists of Jewett's

letters confiscated soon after the murder. The sensational periodical of the time, "The National Police Gazette," published the written communications Jewett possessed at the time of her murder.

Particularly fascinating was the acquittal of her accused killer, which left Jewett's murder unresolved. But not only that, Jewett, instead of being vilified for being a prostitute, was actually "lionized" by the press, making her into a "celebrated victim" and a "paragon of virtue," Cohen reported.

Perhaps the judge feared, as Cohen said, that Jewett's "moral flaws would be laid at his doorstep" unless he said that he tried to help and educate her. Nevertheless, the press, in pictures of Jewett, often portrayed Jewett in a "hysterical, hysterical" way, frequently depicting her carrying a letter that she had written to a suitor or one that she had received from a suitor. Cohen

remarked that Jewett insisted that her admirers write her letters.

One young letter writer/suitor of Jewett's, according to Cohen, was the dapper upper-class 19-year-old Richard P. Robinson, the accused killer of Jewett. For nine months, Robinson carried on an affair with Jewett, Cohen explained. However, at some point, Cohen speculated, one or the other party decided to end the liaison and Robinson became concerned that the letters sent between the two of them would fall into the wrong hands and could be used as a tool for blackmail.

One night at the brothel, Cohen said it was surmised, Robinson found an ax on the premises and struck the sleeping Jewett three times and then set the bed on fire. The ax was found later in the brothel's back yard clean of blood.

Robinson was arrested and indicted for Jewett's murder but was later acquitted.

## CRIME BEAT

March 1 between 6:30 and 9:50 p.m.

An act of vehicle burglary grand theft occurred on the 1800 block of Panorama Drive, as reported by a Bakersfield College student. At 10 p.m., the student called BC security and reported that the passenger side window of the student's white 2001 Chevy S-10 was smashed. The vehicle was parked on Panorama Drive, just north of the Ag Farm facing eastbound. The student parked the vehicle at 6:30 p.m., leaving for class. Upon returning at 9:50 p.m., the student found in addition to the damage that a dash CD player, amplifier and speaker were missing. The Jensen Brand CD player was valued at \$70, the amplifier at \$300 and the speaker at \$160.

March 3 between 5 and 9 p.m.

Vehicle damage was reported by a BC student as having occurred on Haley Street. The student's white 1991 Chevy Caprice sustained a smashed passenger window. Nothing of value was taken. There were no suspects or witnesses.

March 3 at 5 p.m. between 5 and 9 p.m.

A BC student reported vehicle damage, which occurred on Haley Street. The student's red 2002 Volkswagen Golf sustained a bashed passenger rear window. Nothing of value was removed.

March 3 between 5 and 9 p.m.

A BC student's green 1994 Mazda B4000 sustained a damaged passenger window. A stereo faceplate valued at \$200 was pilfered.

March 7 at 11:05 p.m.

An inebriated female cook was taken into custody for public intoxication. An argument broke out between the female and a male Chinese cook in the northeast parking lot. A BC security officer patrolling the area south of the SAN building heard the sounds of a dispute in a foreign language east of the Outdoor Theatre. Upon arrival at the scene of the conflict, the officer saw a Budweiser beer can in the

left hand of the female as she leaned against a car. The officer observed the female's red, watery eyes and noticed a smell of alcohol. The officer attempted to communicate with the female, but she was incoherent. After determining her incapacity to manage herself, the officer arrested her. Her male companion was not taken into custody.

Feb. 23 at 10:30 a.m.

A BC student reported that an act of battery was committed upon his person by an ex-girlfriend. The female BC student attempted to talk with the male student, who refused to communicate with her. The female student allegedly slapped the male on the left arm. The male student was not injured and did not want to press charges.

March 3 at 9:30 p.m.

A female BC student reported that her green 1990 GMC truck parked in southeast lot sustained damage to the driver's side window. A 12-inch Sonic Explosion, an amplifier and a CD case with 100 CDs valued at \$15 each were stolen. The investigating BC security officer checked the rapid eye camera system and got negative results. There are no suspects or witnesses.

March 3 between 1 and 9:30 p.m.

A BC student's white 1997 Chevy Suburban vehicle suffered a smashed back window in the southeast parking lot. The student went to class at 1 p.m. and came back at 9:30 p.m. to find the back passenger side window bashed in and the rear door left ajar. The vehicle did not have a car alarm, and the rapid eye camera system yielded negative results. Taken from the vehicle were 12-inch "Kicker" speakers valued at \$1,200 and two black amplifiers, valued at \$2,200 each.

March 10 at 8:10 a.m.

Charges of prowling and vehicle tampering were leveled against four Hispanic males caught cruising Panorama Drive and Haley Street. The arresting BC security officers reported

observing the suspects "casing cars to burglarize" on Panorama and Haley. Evidence confiscated at the scene of the crime were two flashlight screw drivers, a "Clear Body" flashlight and a "Wrist Rocket" sling shot. The vehicles tampered with included a Honda Accord, a Honda Civic, a Ford Mustang and a Toyota Tundra.

A BC security officer patrolling Haley and Panorama noticed three Hispanic males loitering about the northwest corner of Panorama Drive and Haley Street. The officer used binoculars to observe the suspects walking down Haley. According to the report, one suspect looked into a vehicle window with a flashlight and signaled to the other suspects, who were hiding in bushes, by pointing a finger to a car and then lifting a door handle. The officer then witnessed the suspect trying to break the window of the Honda Accord. The suspects repeated their procedure on vehicles along Panorama. An officer from the Bakersfield Police Department was summoned, and upon arrival, proceeded to detain the fourth suspect, the driver of the suspect's vehicle. The BPD officer arrested him. The three other suspects were found in the bushes west of the Ag Farm. One suspect attempted to flee, but was soon apprehended and forced to lie on the ground upon his arrest.

The BPD officer took the four into custody.

March 9 at 2:35 p.m.

A vehicle accident was reported in the southwest parking lot. A 19-year-old Hispanic male BC student reported that his green 1998 Chevy Metro sustained front-end damage when his car came into contact with an 18-year-old black male BC student's green 1998 Chrysler Concorde. The black student's car sustained side door, left quarter panel and left front tire damage. The Hispanic student claimed he was driving south through the southwest lot when he was hit on the driver's side by the black student's car going west. The black student recounted that he was driving west through the southwest lot when the Hispanic student's car came out on the other side of parked cars and hit his car on the driver's side. There were no injuries reported.

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# CAMPUS



Above: Keith Silva performed "Drive" by Incubus. He took second place at BC Idol.

Right: A crowd of supportive students gather to cheer for their fellow classmates.



## New cancer awareness club prepares for Relay for Life

The club will donate all the money that they raise during Relay for Life to the American Cancer Society.

By XIMENA BENITEZ  
Rip staff writer

A new cancer awareness club has started at Bakersfield College.

The club's main activity will be Relay for Life held at the Cal State Bakersfield soccer field on April 30. Groups began to meet two months before the event is set to take place in order to create teams to raise the money.

"The money goes toward the American Cancer Society, cancer research, cancer absences, and all these great things," said Susan Kim, president of the club.

"The event is about raising money, but it is really about survivorship."

The club works with the American Cancer Society and is present in other community colleges and universities as well.

"It's kind of like a chapter of a national type of club," said Kim. "American Cancer Society set it up because they truly believe college students can make a difference."

Kim considered the idea of creating a club on campus after attending a youth summit hosted by the ACS last summer. Some other members at the summit helped Kim start the club.

"After that, I was like it's about time to start a club, because I was involved in Relay for Life for about two years in high school, and when I came I wanted to continue with it," said Kim.

The club welcomes students regardless of their health status. Steven Mathimana, one of the cancer club's members, thinks it is a positive way to get the community involved.

"I've done Relay for Life in the past, and I've known a lot of people who had cancer, and I think it is a good way to get the community involved," he said.

"It makes people feel good raising money."

The club meets every Wednesday at 4 p.m. at Science and Engineering 38.

The club is trying to spread the message by passing out fliers, announcing in classes and giving away brownies.

## Campus potholes to be repaired

Campus officials plan to repair potholes at the end of the spring semester.

By DOTTY BURNS  
Rip staff writer

Bakersfield College officials said they expect potholes on campus to be repaired in the near future.

According to Bob Day, director of Maintenance and Operations, the potholes are an ongoing problem and several things have to be taken into consideration when refurbishing potholes.

For instance, a time must be found so parking lots can be shut down for repairs and won't inconvenience students.

"It's not that we intentionally try to put them (potholes) out... we just never seem to compromise with a good time," Day said.

Several large potholes have been observed on campus. The free parking area has a few holes that have a diameter of four feet. And the library parking lot is perforated with five-

inch deep cracks and small holes. Lincoln Hall, BC's interim president, said March 18 that the process of repairing the potholes is under way.

"We have one estimate from Perez Asphalt Construction. We can't take just the one. We asked them to do it because we wanted to get just a general idea of what it's probably going to cost us," he said.

"But now, to comply with state law, we will have to send out advertisements inviting people to submit bids to perform the work."

According to Hall, state law requires at least three competitive bids, if the first bid is over \$60,000.

He said the Kern Community College District board of trustees will review the bids and "typically, the board of trustees chooses the lowest bid."

Hall estimated that the repair work would commence by the end of the spring semester.

According to Day, fixing potholes is an expensive chore. "We did the stadium lots in '98 or '99, and at that time it was \$250,000, so it's very expensive and there weren't major damages," Day said.

However, Day doesn't think that a tight college budget has contributed to several yet to be repaired potholes.

"I don't think it's so much they don't want to spend the money, I think it's just the volume of traffic," he said.

Day said most potholes do get repaired. "The vast majority of them do (get fixed), but probably not to the time frame that people would like them to get fixed," he said.

Students who encountered potholes said they didn't cause damage to their vehicles but said they think they should be fixed.

"I have a little car so I try to go around them, but when I hit them it sucks. They're not a real problem, but they should be fixed," said Isabel Sortid, 20, a criminal justice major.

Others said they hadn't noticed any potholes. "I don't drive so I've never seen them," said Robert Jenkins, 21, undecided major. "I just haven't noticed them," said Nike Hogan, philosophy major.



Don Clark, Carla Reyes, Patti Rapp and Joe Ruiz, the judges for BC Idol, were less than pleased with the performance by a student.

## BC Idol: Good, bad and ugly

Performances vary as Silvas, Positive Mike take top honors

By PHILLIP G. KOPP  
Features Editor

American Idol has been a success across the United States. People love watching others make complete idiots of themselves with bad singing and horrible choreography.

The show has people on who are so bad you wonder how the judges sit there through the whole process. BC Idol was no different.

BC Idol, our campus' own version of the hit television show, let any person who could write their name compete in the competition. Contestants had to display their talents singing karaoke style in front of the panel of judges. While trying to imitate the show, the judges acted like the famous critics we all know.

Don Clark was Paula Abdul, who always gives positive feedback; Joe Ruiz was Simon, being extremely harsh yet humorous; Patti Rapp and Carla Reyes made up the fat guy.

This event was a lot like the real American Idol, and you wanted to kill yourself 10 minutes into it. It started off with a number written and performed by Positive Mike, the positive rapper. I couldn't tell you what he was rapping about because he mostly ran back and forth on the stage muttering his lyrics without an attempt to be clear. If you think William Hung could be the next Ricky Martin, then Positive Mike could be the next Yanni.

Other ear-bleeding voices followed and many singers did the same song. I had no idea that Celine Dion was that popular. The song list gave a huge variety, everything from hip hop to metal, but most people competing didn't take advantage of that.

Not every act was horrendous. Keith Silvas' performance and strip tease of "Drive" by Incubus made it worth sitting in the hot sun. Micah Card belting out "Crazy Little Thing Called Love" by Queen reminded you that not every person who signed up had delusions of grandeur.

Then there were those who decided to make the event more fun by being more comical. Joey Kuntz and Nair Bruhn got a few laughs, singing "Say My Name" by Destiny's Child. "We knew we sucked," said Kuntz. "Everyone was doing serious songs so we decided to have some fun."

One definite memorable moment came from Kaitlyn Hulys and Sara Tieloch doing a duet of "Moulin Rouge." Tieloch was far from shy shaking it up on stage. It was topped off by Clark saying, "Next time we'll have a pole in the middle of the stage, and Kaitlyn will be giving lap dances in the cafeteria."

The performance wasn't without its share of problems. Many contestants got cold feet and quit before telling the crew. This caused a good gap of dead time between performances, which lead to song mix-ups and sound problems. Not to mention a random, strange woman who would oops take the mic from the skinny emcee and give her two cents on performances. She wasn't a judge but no one seemed to care to stop her.

Finally the judges made their decision. The two awards, the Best in Show Award and the William Hung Award, were given to contestants that weren't there. So they went to the runners up. Silvas won Best in Show and Positive Mike got the other one.

Silvas had a coconscience and said that he would give his award to the actual winner, Micah Card. "She's worked really hard on her voice," he said. "She deserves it."

# SPORTS

## Softball team wins four games over spring break



Karl Ortiz gets hit by a pitch during BC's loss against Fullerton.

By AUSTEN E. MARSHALL  
Rip staff writer

The Bakersfield College softball team put in a lot of work over spring break. The 'Gades continued their season play and went 4-1 during that time.

In the BC Classic Tournament #2 on March 19-20, the 'Gades won one game, lost one and had another rained out.

The Gades pulled out a 4-3 victory over College of the Sequoias in game one.

In the other game, Fullerton scored all of its runs in the fourth inning for a 5-4 victory.

The 'Gades, trailing 5-1, made it close and almost came all the way back by scoring three runs in the sixth inning.

Down by a run in the final inning,

"Everybody hit well in that game. They (Glendale) made lots of mistakes. They had seven errors, and we just capitalized."

— Sandi Taylor,  
BC softball coach

BC couldn't get on the board and ended up taking the tough loss.

The 'Gades then played a Western Conference Blue Division game against Glendale on March 22 at Bakersfield College.

This time, BC had no problem scoring runs, beating Glendale 21-1 in a five-inning game.

"Everybody hit well in that game," said Renegade softball coach Sandi Taylor.

They (Glendale) made lots of mistakes. They had seven errors, and we just capitalized."

A doubleheader against WSC for LA Valley in Van Nuys also ended in favor of BC. In game one, the 'Gades scored runs in the second and fourth innings to pull out a 3-1 victory.

Game two was a bit different as the first three innings went by without either team scoring.

Then BC turned it on in the fourth inning by scoring five runs en route to an 8-2 victory.

That gave BC three conference victories over the break.

As of March 28, BC softball is 18-8 overall and 10-3 in WSC play.

The 'Gades played host to Citrus on Tuesday and have already record-

ed a victory over them earlier this season, 5-1.

BC travels to Santa Monica for a doubleheader on March 31, and then hosts WSC Blue Division rival College of the Canyons on April 5.

BC still considers Canyons its team to beat.

Canyons is in first place and BC is in second in the Blue Division.

"We can still get in the playoffs as an at-large (team) even if we don't go in second," said Taylor.

"We have to just play well and see who beats who over these next two weeks."

The 'Gades have two losses this season alone to Canyons, which came in a doubleheader earlier this month. Canyons did not let the Gades score a single run in either of those games.

The losses came away, in the Canyons home of Santa Clarita.

## Tennis teams get needed wins after tough losses

Freshman Bryan Branch bounces back from loss for a three-set victory against Santa Barbara on March 17.

By CHRISTOPHER W. FISAR  
Rip Staff Writer

The Bakersfield College men's tennis team defeated Santa Barbara 8-1 on March 17, sweeping the singles matches and improving to 6-5 overall and 4-4 in the conference.

Freshman Bryan Branch, who lost in three sets his last time out against the Vaqueros, did a 180 and won his match in three sets this time around at Santa Barbara.

The victory came amid a tough stretch of home games where BC lost to Ventura 7-2 on March 15 and fell to Glendale on March 10.

"Glendale is probably the third best team in the state right now," said BC coach Rob Slaybaugh.

BC's last dual team home match will be Thursday at home against Los Angeles Pierce.

In women's tennis, Christina Audelo defeated Kim Barchmore in Bakersfield College's match at Ventura on March 11.

Barchmore was previously undefeated before suffering her first loss of the season at the hands of Audelo. Liz Carnal lost her first set of the year in the sixth match.

In their matchup at Cuesta on March 16, BC lost a close one 5-4. The lone highlight from the match came in the first doubles match where the Renegades won in a tiebreaker and Sarah Ramirez remained undefeated.

BC swept Santa Barbara at home 9-0 on March 17 to improve to 6-4 overall and 6-3 in the Western State Conference.

Their home match against Cuesta on March 22 was rained out and has been rescheduled for April 5.

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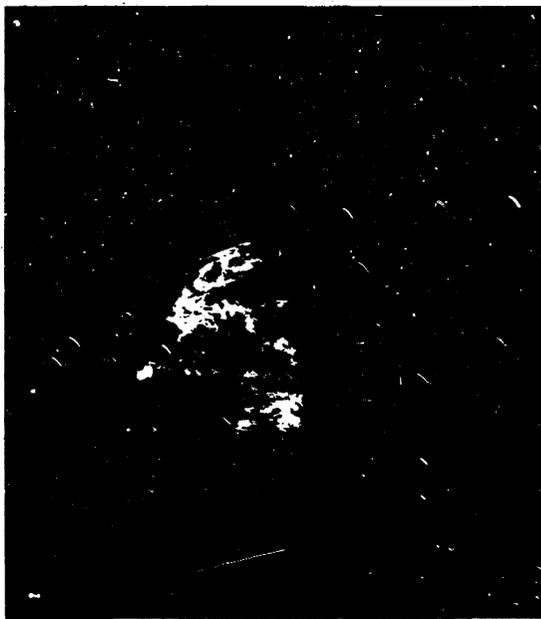
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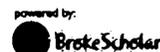
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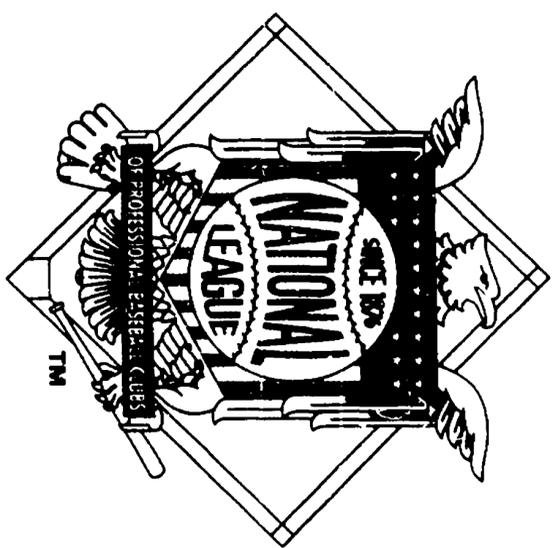
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# Baseball Predictions

By CHRISTOPHER W. PISAR  
Rip staff writer



## AL West

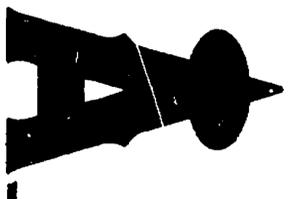
In one of the better off-seasons in all of baseball, the Los Angeles Angels completed arguably the best outfield. They added Steve Finley to the star-studded outfield of Vladimir Guerrero and Garret Anderson. They also re-visited their pitching with the acquisitions of reliever Eusebio Yan and starter Paul Byrd. Ex-Red Sox shortstop Orlando Cabrera was signed to replace David Eckstein, who was not tendered a new contract.

The Oakland Athletics continued their money ball approach to the game, dealing starting pitcher Tim Lincecum and Mark Mulder in return for some raw talent and are hoping that their young staff can pick up the slack. The acquisition of Jason Kendall at catcher should help with their young pitching staff. Barry Zito now stands alone as the ace of the staff and a lot of pressure is placed on their young pitcher Danny Haren.

The Texas Rangers kept the majority of their surprising third-place team from last season and added veteran catcher Sandy Alomar Jr. and Richard Hidalgo, formerly of the New York Mets. They also re-signed their best player, second baseman Alfonso Soriano, to a one-year deal after he had been rumored to be on the trading block.

The Seattle Mariners made a splash this winter by signing first baseman Richie Sexson and third baseman Adrian Belter to four- and five-year deals after coming off a last-place finish in the division. Combine those guys with Brent Boone and Patek Reese up the middle, and they have one of the better lineups in all of baseball. Pitching was a weak point for the Mariners last year and they didn't do much to help themselves there.

- PREDICTIONS:  
1. Los Angeles Angels 2. Seattle Mariners  
3. Oakland Athletics 4. Texas Rangers



Guerrero



Kent

## AL Central

Even off another AL Central title, the Minnesota Twins continued to do what they've been doing for several years now, and that's spend their money wisely. The Twins re-signed starting pitcher Brad Lidge and re-hired the closer spot with right-hander Joe Nathan.

The Chicago White Sox were very busy this winter in both the free agent and trade markets. They headed up their outfield, acquiring Scott Podsedak and signing Jermaine Dye. Their pitching staff also received a boost with the addition of right-hander Orlando Hernandez and catcher A.J. Pierzynski.

With the signing of pitcher Kevin Millwood and outfielder Juan Gonzalez, the Cleveland Indians have added some veteran presence to a young and talented squad. They also acquired Alex Orea and Jose Hernandez as insurance for their middle infield.

The Detroit Tigers are another team that did little this off-season in the free agent market and are banking on the continuing improvement of virtually the same squad they had last year. Adding Troy Percival, formerly of the Angels, in the closer role should give their young starting pitchers a lot more confidence about leaving the game with a lead.

The Kansas City Royals signed pitcher Jose Lima but did nothing else to improve their last place squad from last year. They continue to maintain a low payroll, paying vets with Juan Gonzalez and Dwei Redford.

- PREDICTIONS:  
1. Minnesota Twins 2. Chicago White Sox 3. Cleveland Indians  
4. Detroit Tigers 5. Kansas City Royals



Lidge



Orea

## AL East

World Series champion Boston Red Sox did some rearranging with their pitching staff losing ace Pedro Martinez to the Mets and replacing him with Derek Lowe to the Los Angeles Dodgers and replacing them with former Cub Matt Clement and ex-Yankee David Weir. After a short stint by Orlando Cabrera as shortstop, Edgar Ramirez was signed to solidify their defense up the middle. They also re-signed infielder Mark Bellhorn and pitcher Carlos Arroyo, both vital pieces to their run to the championship last season. With the departure of Doug Mientkiewicz to the Mets the Red Sox expect David Miller to pick up the majority of the pitching time.

After the New York Yankees wound up on the losing side of one of the greatest comeback ever, they decided to focus heavily on pitching and signed Carl Pavano and Ivan Wright. In addition to those acquisitions, they dealt pitcher Javier Vazquez and a few minor-leaguers to Arizona for free-lance Cy Young winner Randy Johnson.

The Baltimore Orioles made one significant move this winter and that was trading outfielder Jerry Hairston, infielder Mike Fontenot and right-hander Dave Crockett for superior slugger Manny Sosa. He will provide more power in the line up as well as more protection for Miguel Tejada. That off-home should see their score: run numbers go up substantially with the addition of Sosa to a lineup that already includes Javy Lopez and Rafael Palmeiro.

Coming off a much improved season the Tampa Bay Devil Rays did very little hoping that their young bench of players, including all-star Carl Crawford, will continue to get better. They traded outfielder Jose Cruz Jr. to the Diamondbacks in return for pitcher Casey Fossum. In one of the strangest transactions of the winter, Roberto Alomar announced his retirement just months after signing a one-year deal.

Signing third baseman Corey Koskie and acquiring first baseman Shea Hillenbrand for right-handed pitcher Adam Peterson in a trade with Arizona were the only noteworthy off-season moves that the Toronto Blue Jays made. They did sign Scott Schoeneweis and Billy Koch to help their struggling pitching staff.

- PREDICTIONS:  
1. New York Yankees 2. Boston Red Sox 3. Baltimore Orioles  
4. Tampa Bay Devil Rays 5. Toronto Blue Jays



Lopez



Crawford

## NL West

By signing Derek Lowe and resigning Odalis Perez, along with Jeff Weaver and a healthy Brad Penny, the Los Angeles Dodgers have made themselves one of the deepest pitching staffs in the league. They also added a lot of home run power with the additions of Jeff Kent, Jose Valentin, and J.D. Drew.

The San Francisco Giants got help where they needed it most, defensively. With the additions of Mike Matheny at catcher and Mattes Alou, son of manager Felipe Alou, the Giants should be substantially better in that department. They also signed closer Armando Benitez to help ensure their ability to close out games as their other weak spot last year was their bullpen. The San Diego Padres added a much needed veteran presence to the pitching staff with the signing of Woody Williams. They also added several back ups, including Geoff Blum and Eric Young, as well as Dave Roberts, one of the bestest guys in all of baseball.

Signing Dwei Redford and Dustan Mohr aren't exactly the moves that will take the Colorado Rockies to the top of the division. They definitely got younger over the winter with the departures of Shawn Estes, Royce Clayton and Jeremy Burrell, but they also have a lot less experience, too. The Arizona Diamondbacks were one of the busiest teams this off-season completing a trade for Javier Vazquez that sent Randy Johnson to the Yankees and gave them the pieces they needed to make another trade for outfielder Shawn Green. They also went out and signed third baseman Troy Glaus and free agent pitcher Russ Ortiz to multi-year deals. Even with the departure of the most dominant pitcher in the game the Diamondbacks should be much improved from last year.

- PREDICTIONS:  
1. Los Angeles Dodgers 2. San Francisco Giants 3. San Diego Padres  
4. Arizona Diamondbacks 5. Colorado Rockies

## NL Central

The National League champion St. Louis Cardinals traded for Oakland ace Mark Mulder to solidify their starting pitching while keeping the majority of the team intact. The middle infield is completely different with David Eckstein taking over for Edgar Renteria and Mark Grudzewski picking up where Tony Womack left off at second base.

With the loss of the most coveted free agent on the market, Beten, the Houston Astros did little to counter the departure. With the loss of Beten and Jeff Keat their offense will struggle, but their starting pitching should be much improved with Roger Clemens remaining and Andy Pettite and Roy Oswalt healthy.

Trading Sammy Sosa was the key to the Chicago Cubs' off-season believing that he was a cancer to his team. They also parted ways with starting pitcher Matt Clement, but that shouldn't be a problem. They are headed at that position. Signing Nomar Garciaparra and Todd Walker gives the Cubs one of the best infields in the game.

The Cincinnati Reds had a fairly quiet winter staying in-house and resigning two of their best players, Adam Dunn and Austin Kearns. They gave their pitching staff a much needed boost, signing Eric Milton to a three-year deal and Kent Mercker to a two-year deal.

The Pittsburgh Pirates are another one of those low payroll teams that did little this winter to improve their team. Acquiring catcher Benito Santiago to replace the recently departed Jason Kendall and resigning shortstop Jack Wilson should keep the Pirates right around where they were last year. Milwaukee Brewers did little to help themselves climb out of the depths of the National League Central where they have consistently found themselves over the last couple years. They continue to trade away their talented players for salary cap reasons. The casualties from this off-season include pitcher Danny Kohb and all-star Scott Podsedak.

- PREDICTIONS:  
1. St. Louis Cardinals 2. Chicago Cubs 3. Houston Astros  
4. Cincinnati Reds 5. Pittsburgh Pirates 6. Milwaukee Brewers

## NL East

The Atlanta Braves' acquisition of Tim Lincecum from the Athletics this past off-season should be enough to make up for the departure of starting pitchers Russ Ortiz and Paul Byrd. They also re-signed John Smoltz, who will move back to his original role as a starting pitcher. Outfielder Raul Mondesi was signed to replace J.D. Drew in left field but lacks the offensive skills that Drew possessed.

Philadelphia went backward from a season ago, losing pitchers Eric Milton and Kevin Millwood. They signed Jon Lester to a three-year contract to fill one hole but they weren't very active outside of that.

The Florida Marlins got deeper in the bullpen when they signed Antonio Alfonseca from the Braves and re-signed reliever Guillermo Mota. They also added a home run-hitting first baseman in Carlos Delgado, who should give them much needed power that they lacked last season.

With the addition of Pedro Martinez, the New York Mets have provided themselves with a veteran ace who can anchor their pitching staff and show their younger pitchers a thing or two. Signing Miguel Cairo and dealing for Doug Mientkiewicz will provide them with some defensive insurance on the right side of the infield.

- The Montreal Expos got a new name and a new home but wound up with virtually the same team. The Washington Nationals, as they are now known, made some improvements with the signing of pitcher Eusebio Loaiza as well as adding Vandy Castillo and Christian Guzman to their infield.
- PREDICTIONS:  
1. Florida Marlins 2. New York Mets 3. Atlanta Braves  
4. Philadelphia Phillies 5. Washington Nationals