



Ready, aim, fire
BC archery class the only one of its kind in Kern County.
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Black history parade
Residents gather downtown to celebrate Black History Month.
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THE RENEGADE RIP

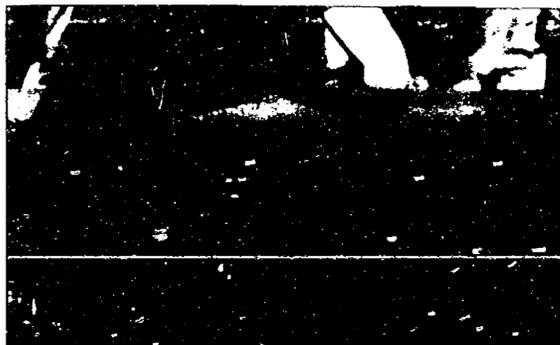
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Bakersfield College

March 7, 2007

A challenge for the ages



STEVEN MARTIN / THE RIP

Big Bertha, a design created by BC students Josh Bailey, 26, Roshani Patel, 19, and Roman Terrazas, 29, gets judged at the Engineer Design Challenge.

BC Engineers' Club set up the 22nd annual event, challenging students of all ages to shoot cans into squares.

By MARYANN KOPP
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Rip staff writer

The objective for the Bakersfield College Engineers' Club's 22nd Annual Design Challenge, "Can-undrum," was "to design and construct a device that will maneuver a soda can into a square slot while participating in a head-to-head competition."

At the East Hill's Mall food court on Feb. 24, several entrants of all ages competed in their respective divisions for a chance to win trophies and cash prizes.

There were first and second places per division, and the divisions were arranged as follows: Junior High, High School, College and Open/Professional.

The rules were the same for all divisions regarding the weight of each device, the amount of set-up time allowed, the fact that each device had to be "activated by cutting a string" and could not be attached

to the surface of the table, or "Pit," to name a few.

A very notable variance, however, was in the size of the cans per division.

The Junior High Division had to move a 5.5 fluid ounce V8 juice can, while the High School Division had to move an 8 fluid ounce Diet Coke, and the College and Open Divisions had to move a 12 fluid ounce Diet Coke. All cans were full.

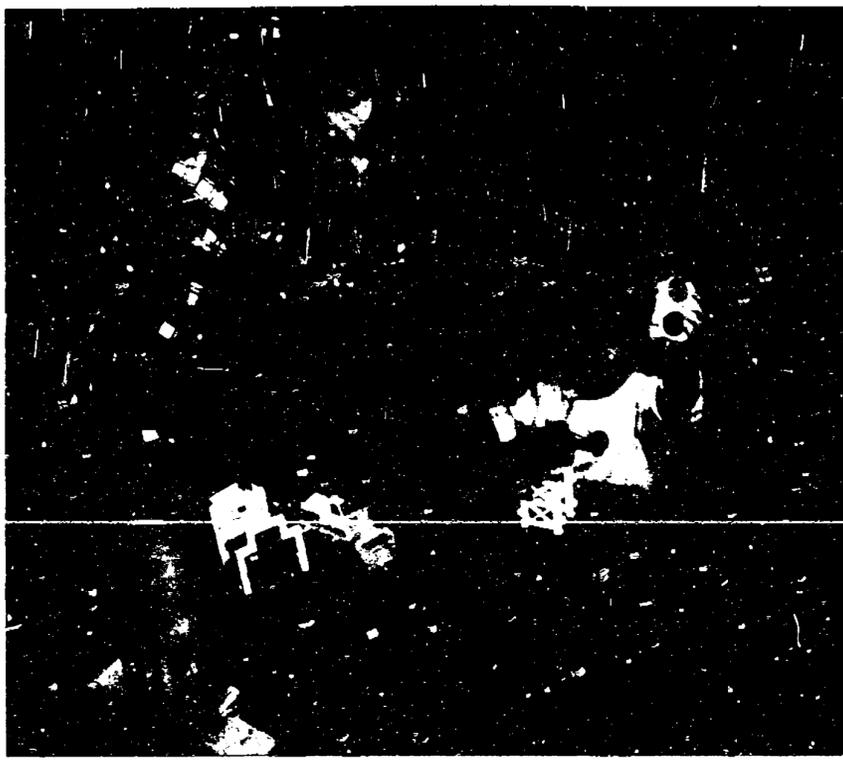
Devices of all kinds graced the 4'x8'x3/8" plywood and masonite table, all intent on placing their soda can into the 3.25-inch square slot (which was cut in the center of the table), and doing so before their opponent could.

An impressive array of design was present, as all devices were to be constructed from scratch.

While many were created to release a sort of arm that would launch itself towards the can upon cutting the string, there were also others that were designed to resemble cars.

When Junior High Division winner Elaine Halbur was asked what inspired her to construct her winning device, she said that she wanted to make something that could work like a slingshot.

She said that she was very happy



STEVEN MARTIN / THE RIP

Lucas Fulce, 2, and grandmother Karen Fulce, 61, enjoy playing with a toy at the Engineer Design Challenge held at East Hills Mall on Feb. 24.

that she won, and that she had been working on her first place device since about November or December of 2006.

As each design was different, so was the amount of time the participants spent constructing and testing their mechanisms.

Dan Halbur took first place in the Open/Professional Division with "Dynamite." He spent about three hours designing, six hours of building, and 15 hours of testing his winning contraption.

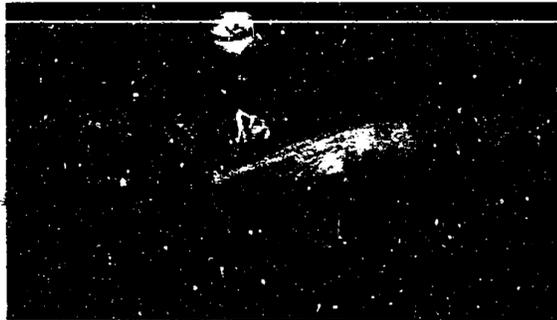
The winner for both first and second place in the Junior High Division was Elaine Halbur of Holy Family, which is a home school.

The first place winner in the High School Division was Sarah Schale of Foothill High School. The second place winner was Jose Montes of Foothill High School.

Roman Terrazas, Josh Bailey, and Roshani Patel of Bakersfield College took first place in the College Division.

Randall Cass and Nathan Hobbs, also representing BC, placed second.

In the Open/Professional Divi-



STEVEN MARTIN / THE RIP

The Flame, which came in second place in the high school division during the Engineer Design Challenge.

sion, Dan Halbur placed first and Richard Meyer came in second.

The Bakersfield College Engineers' Club also awarded additional prizes. David Heister of Foothill High School won for Superior Engineering Design - Amateur.

Richard Meyer was awarded for Superior Engineering Design - Professional. To be presented with these awards, the competitors' devices had to display an "ingenious

design."

The Halbur family received an award for Most Artistic entries. Dan Halbur also won the Rube Goldberg, which was "presented to the most over-complicated design."

Finally, an award was given for Engineering School of the Year, which only the school with the most entries (BC excluded) could take home. Foothill High School won this category.

Magician still has it

Assistant manager of equipment for the BC football team had a successful career as a Las Vegas magician that spanned two decades.

By MARYANN KOPP
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Rip staff writer

Andre Eddington, the assistant manager of equipment for the Bakersfield College football team, may appear to seem as any other staff member at first glance.

But Eddington has some hidden talents and hindrances. What might go unrealized is, as Eddington said in his own handwriting, "I'm a deaf man. I'm a magician."

Known as Andre the Magician for the majority of his 32-year long journey in performing magic, Eddington has performed for adults and children in many different venues despite having lived in Bakersfield his entire life.

At the age of 9, Andre began teaching himself how to perform magic tricks of all kinds until he was able to smoothly maneuver himself (and any captivated spectator) through every demonstration.

Whether his work involved coins, cards, balls or birds, Andre the Magician could adeptly entertain countless people.

It was this ability that first earned the head of his former manager, who noticed Eddington at a Las Vegas magic club.

Shortly after seeing Andre perform, he offered him a job at The Mirage Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas. Eddington's career flourished in Las Vegas.

He entertained guests of The Mirage for 20



ERIK AGUILAR / THE RIP

Andre "The Magician" Eddington does a card trick on the cafeteria table Feb 28 at Bakersfield College.

years while still living in Bakersfield through traveling there every three months. He conveys that he preferred to not live in Las Vegas full time.

While in Vegas, Andre expressed that all he would do the entire time was eat, sleep, and perform magic tricks, with practically no change in that routine.

Even though he was doing something he was passionate about and enjoyed perks,

like having a limo drive him around while in Vegas, the routine could get demanding and redundant.

The fact that he is deaf does not seem to have any sort of bearing on what Andre chose to do with his career as a magician or anything else, for that matter.

He received his AA from BC in 1978 and has worked at BC since 1981. Aside from magic, Andre has also worked in sports for



ERIK AGUILAR / THE RIP

Even though Andre "The Magician" is retired from magic, he still does some tricks with his cards.

27 years.

But while he is still involved in sports career-wise, Andre has forfeited his title of magician for good.

He ended his career at The Mirage due to complications from dialysis and claims to be through with magic, even though he carries a few different trick cards in his wallet.

With fluid hand movements, he can still make a coin disappear and re-appear so many times that it is almost impossible to determine where the coin will end up.

He also has a three-card trick where he presents a person with two number 10 cards and one number 4 card.

After watching Andre place all three cards face down and a few shuffles later, an audience member is asked to place a finger on top of one of the cards.

Upon doing so, Eddington lifted up the chosen card to reveal a message: Thanks for the donation - You are now an official member of the sucker club.

At 48 years old, Eddington seems content with working as an assistant equipment manager at Bakersfield College, despite his extensive background in magic.

Approval moves process forward

By KATHERINE J. WHITE
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Campus editor

Bakersfield College has crossed the finish line into reaffirmed accreditation.

On Feb. 13, BC President Bill Andrews got the good news in the form of the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges Commission Report for the commission's Jan. 10-12 official meeting.

The report states that BC is being granted the status of Reaffirmed Accreditation on the Basis of a Comprehensive Evaluation.

This is the final communiqué by the Commission in response to BC's written 2006 Self Study report.

On Oct. 15, 2007, BC will issue a written Progress Report to the Commission. Upon receiving this Progress Report, the Commission will draft a response, which BC will receive at the January 2008 commission meeting in February 2008.

This report will include a prediction of the college's status by the college's next date for commission approval.

An evaluation team from Accrediting Commission came to BC from Oct. 23-25, 2006, and on Feb. 13, 2007, the commission recommended that BC be awarded the status of Reaffirmation Accreditation with a Progress Report and Visit.

This official designation is founded upon the commission team's judgment that a number of the team's "recommendations" require swift addressing, and that the college's progress must be officially written down by the team.

This particular level of reaffirmation of accreditation is two steps below the first level of straight reaffirmation of accreditation. At this first level, the college in question no longer needs further examination until the issuing of a midterm report.

There are 10 different levels of recommendation. The top level, Andrews says, is very rarely attained by any com-

See ACCREDITATION, Page 8

Open-ocean diving class now at BC

By ASHLEE FLORES
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Rip staff writer

A scuba class will be taught this semester at Bakersfield College.

The instructors for the class will be David Miller and Tina Cummings. Miller owns a dive shop in town and is very excited about starting a dive class at BC. He said, "I expect it to take off like a hot air balloon taking off, then expand."

The purpose of having a scuba class at BC is for students that would like to become certified divers. According to Cummings, most junior colleges with aquatic centers offer scuba courses.

The class will be two units and a \$150 material fee that will include a mask, fins, snorkel, and boots. The class will also be taking two dive trips. This is half the price a person would pay if they wanted private lessons that run for about \$295, and this price doesn't include any of the gear.

"To teach scuba here at BC would be the cheapest way for students to learn and become certified scuba divers," Miller said.

Once the students go through the proper training they will receive a PADI card, which stands for Professional Association of Diving Instructors. Cummings said, "When a person becomes certified, they can dive anywhere in the

See SCUBA, Page 8

Cinderella Waltzed in

"Cinderella Waltz" directed by Randy Messick, played in the Bakersfield College Indoor Theatre Feb. 22 - 24, and Mar. 1 - 3. Right: Marisa Johnson, who plays Mrs. Snow, puts her hand on her daughter Reagan, played by Katie Goehring while she speaks to Prince Alf, played by John Spitzer. Below: Left to right, Goneril, played by Steph Hankinson, Rosy Snow, played by Veronica Palacios, Reagan, played by Katie Goehring, and Mrs. Snow, played by Marisa Johnson. Below right: Prince Alf, played by John Spitzer, holds a rifle as part of his act.



Photos by Erik Aguilar / The Rip



Student consumers beware

By EARL PARSONS
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Rip Staff Writer

The Better Business Bureau, along with local, state and federal government agencies declared the week of Feb. 4 Consumer Awareness Week.

The BBB is an organization in the United States and Canada that acts as a conduit between consumers and businesses. While they do not have the authority to enforce business laws, the BBB Web site has information on illegal business practices and attempts to resolve disputes between businesses and consumers.

The theme of the event was "Read Up, Reach Out, and Be An Informed Consumer." As April 15 is fast approaching, Consumer Awareness Week focused on giving advice about filing taxes.

According to Doug Broden, president of the San Joaquin Valley BBB, "As tax filing deadlines approach, BBB experience supports the prediction that scam artists will prey upon people's trust and try to take advantage of confusion over newly enacted tax breaks, just as they do every year. Reading up, reaching out and becoming an informed consumer this tax season can help people avoid tax schemes and make decisions to better protect their hard-earned dollars and improve their financial situation."

One thing taxpayers are often swindled into is refund anticipation loans. Usually advertised as quick-refund offers around February, when people receive their W-2 forms, people think it is similar to a paycheck advance and don't realize it is a loan until the bill comes in.

According to a press release from the BBB, "While fees vary, an average tax refund of \$2,000 can carry associated fees for the tax preparation, filing and loan of \$250 or more. That works out to an annual interest rate of 521% for a 10-day loan."

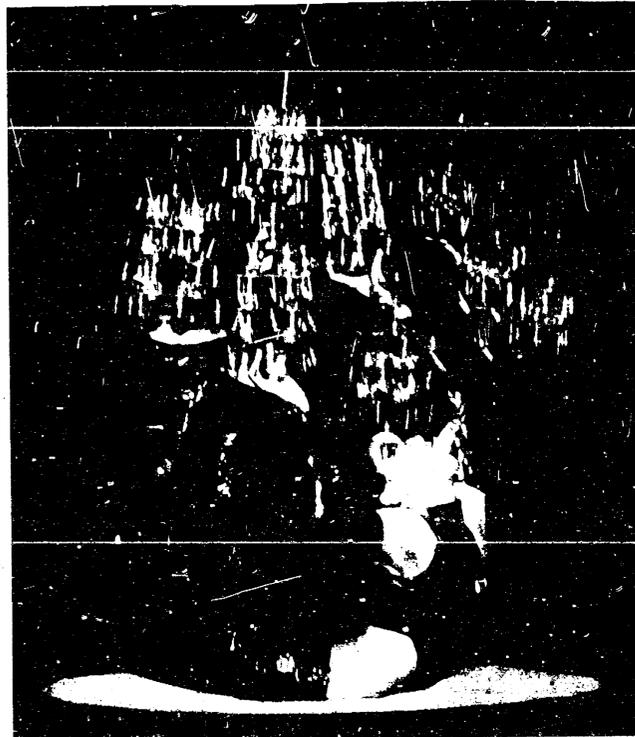
Broden said, "You may get your money a bit quicker than waiting for your IRS refund check, but you incur a steep cost for that service. In effect, you are paying fees and interest to borrow from yourself."

More information on the Better Business Bureau and on business scams going on in the U.S. and Canada can be found on the BBB website at www.bbb.org.

Acrobats fly Shanghai at Rabobank

Golden State Dragon Acrobats perform jaw-dropping feats in front of a packed house at Rabobank.

By LILY FAHEL
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Rip staff writer



This Chinese acrobat balances multiple wine glasses filled with water on her hands, feet and mouth at Rabobank Arena on Feb. 27.

the sky, on the highest chair while the chair was tilted at various angles.

According to Huang, acrobats get traded every two to three years, and they will be getting new members this coming September.

The acrobats have toured all of the United States and, according to their program, "over 65 countries on five continents."

The Golden Dragon Acrobats will be heading to San Diego for their next performance anticipating ap-

proximately 1,500 in attendance.

Touring until May of this year, the acrobats expect to be back in China once the tour has ended.

At \$60 per admission, the audience, which was mostly a mature crowd.

Considered the price to be reasonable taking into consideration the overhead required to assemble a theatrical performance such as that given by the Chinese acrobats.

To make a little extra cash for

their touring expenses, just outside the theater, 22-year-old performer, Yan Hong Dan from Cangzhou,

China, sells the acrobats' products, including T-shirts, mouse pads, scarves and for \$3, fans could take home their own Chinese yo-yo.

While only one of the 24 acrobats speaks a bit of conversational English, all of them have mastered the universal language of quality entertainment.



Above: Hanging about 20 feet from the ground, a female acrobat performs her show. Below: Two performers dressed as a dragon balance.

April 15th deadline for filing taxes, a necessary annoyance

Everyone is required to file taxes, but some find it more convenient to file from home.

By DONNY VAN SLOTEN
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Rip staff writer

If you don't file for taxes, you will eventually face jail time and heavy fines.

"Anyone who works must file for taxes by April 15th," said David Riddle, owner of Rosedale Tax service. Riddle has been filing taxes for 20 years.

"This was my first time filing for taxes. I got help from my mom. She does it herself," said Miguel Felix, undeclared major.

In order to file, you don't need to go to a professional tax service; you can do it yourself from your own home. There are a number of Web sites available that were developed just to help you file your taxes.

"My friend helped me file my taxes, we did them online using Tax-Act," said Erwin Ledford, undeclared major.

Whether you do it yourself online or go to a professional, filing for tax-

es is a must. "This is my third year filing for taxes. I don't know how to do it myself, so I go to a professional," said Erica Patino, criminology major.

"I have around 600 clients, the number grows 15 to 20 percent annually," said Riddle. He went on to say, "I've always been good at filing taxes. I started filing for co-workers in the oilfields, got my licenses and been doing it professionally ever since."

If you have trouble filing for taxes independently, it's always good to consult a tax adviser.



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St. Patrick's Day: an occasion to eat cabbage and pinch people

By MARCINDA COIL
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Opinions editor

St. Patrick's Day is a day where people gather to sport their green attire, search and destroy those victims who don't sport the green, find themselves an Irish dish such as corned beef and cabbage to eat, and get sloshed on green beer or an Irish liquor.

However, along with these traditions come questions about the sources of these traditions and symbols, such as who is St. Patrick?

Well, St. Patrick was a religious figure who was canonized as a saint for converting Ireland to Christianity.

Even though St. Patrick was not born in Ireland and it is unknown exactly where he was born, according to wikipedia.com, he "was sold into slavery by a group of Irish marauders who raided his village" at the age of 16.

After he escaped and studied in

a monastery, he returned to Ireland with a vision to spread the word of God.

According to religionfacts.com, St. Patrick used the shamrock to explain to the Irish pagans the Trinity: The father, the son, and the Holy Ghost. Thus, he brought about the symbol of the shamrock to Irish culture.

"Patrick was quite successful at winning converts," according to wikipedia.com, "a fact that upset the Celtic Druids."

Even after several arrests, escapes, and his death on March 17 in AD 461, St. Patrick made a lasting impression on Ireland.

Since St. Patrick's death, Ireland honored the day every year to remember the saint.

According to wikipedia.com, until recent years, St. Patrick's Day was considered only a religious holiday in Ireland until it became a bank holiday on the day until March 17, 1996.

In fact, it was a law for pubs to be closed on March 17 until it was

"repealed" in the 1970s, according to wikipedia.com.

Although St. Patrick's life and death brought about some of the annual traditions celebrated on March 17, he did not embed other traditions such as the wearing of green and pinching into our annual celebration.

Even though pinching those who do not wear green on this day has become a tradition, it is unknown the source of this tradition.

According to various sources, the color green is a celebration of "The Emerald Isle." Ireland's nickname given because its hills are so green, and it happens to be one of three colors on their flag. According to wikipedia.com, children usually sport green, white, and orange colors, which are all the colors on their flag.

However, according to Bridget Haggerty in National Geographic News, "in Ireland the color was long considered to be unlucky. Irish folklore holds that green is the favorite color of the good people (the proper name for faeries).

They are likely to steal people, especially children, who wear too much of the color!"

Leprechauns, on the other hand, according to mythsforpatricksday.com, are "grumpy, alcoholic, insufferable elves in the employ of Irish fairies." Even though they were considered shoemakers, they are remembered as having a pot of gold that they guarded like starving wolves.

According to blackdogst.patricksdayhistory.com, the leprechaun has become Ireland's national fairy.

However, mythsforpatricksday.com says, "Somewhere in the course of the Irish American experience, the leprechaun took on the characteristics of the loveable, but ultimately contemptible, stage Irishman."

Another long revered tradition of St. Patrick's Day is corned beef and cabbage.

Although cabbage is "truly" an Irish dish, according to religionfacts.com, "The corned beef was substituted for bacon by Irish immigrants to the Americas around the turn of

the century who could not afford the real thing."

So, where does the term "luck of the Irish" come from?

"During the gold and silver rush years in the second half of the 19th century, a number of the most famous and successful miners were of Irish and Irish American birth," according to mythsforpatricksday.com.

"Over time this association of the Irish with mining fortunes led to the expression."

Although the Irish dish and the Irish term rooted from 19th century America, according to Markey in National Geographic News, famous Scottish author Robert Louis Stevenson "brought a store of Guinness [beer] with him during a trip to Samoa in the South Pacific."

Guinness Stout was actually first brewed in Dublin, Ireland in 1759 by Arthur Guinness, said Markey, and now "1,883,200,000 (that's 1.9 billion) pints of Guinness are consumed around the world every year."

So, what do other countries do to celebrate St. Patrick's Day? Besides the typical traditions used in the United States, "The New York parade has become the largest St. Patrick's Day parade in the world, outside Ireland," according to wikipedia.com. Chicago dyes its river green every year.

Denmark holds an annual three-legged charity race, and Munich, Germany, also holds a parade with "an open air party with live music and dance performances" afterward, according to wikipedia.com. In Great Britain, people consume large amounts of Guinness in order to receive a Guinness hat.

According to Markey, Dublin celebrates with a parade and a festival full of 15,000 pounds of fireworks to attract 400,000 people.

"One reason St. Patrick's Day might have become so popular," according to wikipedia.com, "is that it takes place just a few days before the first day of spring. One might say it has become the first green of spring."

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OPINION

STAFF EDITORIAL

The Earth deserves more care

For years, there has been a trend in America which isolates the deteriorating environment as being solely the problem of environmentalists. While this is not necessarily true, the prevailing attitude is that a person who cares about the environment is automatically pigeon-holed into the identity of being an environmentalist, which is not a very flattering title in the view of larger society.

However, this has not deterred many from accepting the title and duties of being a so-called environmentalist.

The backlash from this has been a movement of "anti-environmentalists."

These are people who take issue with the haughty and self-righteous stereotype which is almost synonymous with the title of environmentalist.

It is this group who boast about the supposed real American virtues of driving big cars, proving domination over nature (mostly by causing different levels of destruction to it), and by showcasing their indifference to whatever damage is caused by any person or group.

This form of catering to our current American cultural trait of over-consumption is a form of reverse compensation for our collective neglect of the land which we proclaim to love so dearly.

Instead of taking control of a situation which puts all of us at risk, we tend to make the issue of environmentalism a politically partisan issue.

What is meant by this is that even if a person does not have a political preference, or if they have one that is contrary to the ideal of conservation, they are placed into a social mold of "liberal" or "feminine" or that of a fundamentalist ecological crusader.

Although environmentalism has become less marginalized because of Al Gore's movie "An Inconvenient Truth," and the collective realization that something is very wrong with how the planet is working, there is still a vast majority of the population which believes that it is either someone else's duty, or someone else's belief that will fix this problem.

There is a feeling that the opposing forces promoting either the environment or development will somehow develop into a pseudo "checks-and-balance" system which somehow balances the two forces.

However, there is no such thing as a checks and balances system when it comes to our natural world. Human industry and progress must be made to accommodate nature, not to take advantage of it.

A static tension between two opposing forces of development and conservation will not help to prop up our society like some great ideological tenet.

There are many laws already in place to protect the environment, and to promote conservation. To many, these laws are snorted at as being there to appease the environmentalists and so forth.

Just like with other crimes against humanity, it must be recognized and ingrained into the public consciousness that damage to the environment is damage to our society.

Murder, rape, burglary, arson, and embezzlement are all crimes because they are against what the majority of society has decided to be counter-productive to the cause of greater causes of social progress and togetherness.

Although this is a rather light description of what becomes a law, and how it does so, it is enough to make different levels of environmental disregard culturally significant.

The world at large, and especially Americans in our role as world leaders, needs to understand that these laws are not in place just to appease the environmentalists.

They need to not only understand the repercussions of environmental neglect, but they need to believe that it is every individual citizen's duty to take care of their own share of the environment.

Every individual effort will eventually pay off in some individual reward.

Climbing restrictions cause chaos

By NICK STOCKTON
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Editor in chief

Uninformed hikers, campers, climbers and casual visitors are the key factors contributing to the deterioration of our national parks.

Every year, our parks become more trashed and crowded by those who are ignorant of the damage their tiny acts of littering, illegal fires, bear-feeding, and so on do to these public lands.

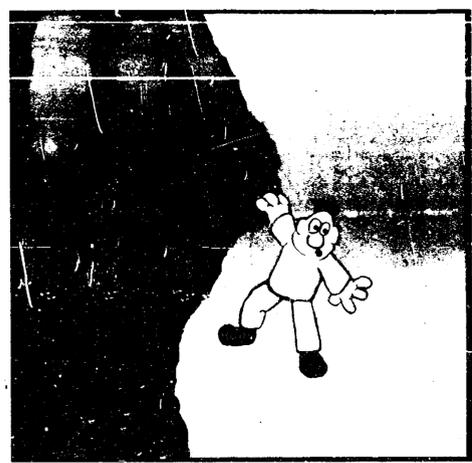
Likewise, casual adventurers who are uninformed in the ways of nature cause the public and their families' unneeded emotional and financial burden due to the large number of those who become lost and distressed during their trips.

A series of training classes and certifications should be initiated in order to ease the National Park Service, which is most often called in to clean up the messes its temporary tenants leave behind.

A low-level class, showing basic survival and direction-finding skills, as well as the damage that even small acts of environmental defiance cause, should be required before any person is issued a camping permit.

For more involved hiking and climbing expeditions, there should be a more involved series of training courses and certifications required. Every level of these certifications should also have timely renewals required, such as with drivers, gun and fishing licenses. Adherents to the idea of public land have valid beliefs.

As a nation of tax-paying citizens, the idea of public areas open to all is an important ideal to maintain. However, this same logic should also imply that the public land should be preserved for all. Knowledge begets progress, and an informed public is more likely to make



ERICK MAIN / THE RIP

choices while camping that lead to a progressively cleaner and well-maintained park system.

Also, in the case of lost hikers, there is the issue of the public being responsible for the hikers' mistakes, in the way of rescue operations.

With more knowledge about direction finding, and a sense of humility concerning one's place in the wilderness taught to more hikers, there will be potentially less lost and endangered hikers.

Nature itself does not become a more dangerous place for humans. The threats and problems remain mostly static in the level of danger presented. Humans have a built in knack and desire for learning that has allowed them to overcome the weather, wildlife, and other challenges presented by nature.

By learning a core set of survival skills, virtually any hiker should be able to survive many of the normal, as well as many of the freak situations found in the wilderness.

Omnivores need to back off

By JOEL R. PARAMO
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Sports editor

There are some omnivores that should stop being rude to vegetarians.

Being a vegetarian is a personal choice, most people make that choice for health reasons or for the pure understanding that eating sick processed animals is harmful and cruel not only to the animals but to themselves.

When people make this choice most of them do not force their decision not to eat meat on those people that continue to do so. Understanding this, it boggles my mind that at the dinner table, or when vegetarians go to restaurants, omnivores stick

pieces of steak and chicken in our faces and say, "Mmm, meat, you're really missing out!"

Showing a dead cooked carcass into our faces is not tempting us to eat meat again; it probably makes most of our stomachs uneasy, and it's just not appropriate. It's not hurting anyone that some people choose to not eat meat. According to Veg.com, the vegetarian resource group, "We can extrapolate to say there are about 4.8 million non-institutionalized vegetarian adults in the United States."

That's a lot of people that don't eat meat and not all of us are showing our vegetables and their faces so, think about what you are doing before you actually do it. To help those that do eat meat, vegetarians

are those people that refrain from eating meat products, beef, pork, poultry, and fish. Then, there are vegetarians that totally refrain from all meat and animal products and they are called vegans. So please don't shove your forks into our faces and give us a hard time about not wanting to eat what you eat.

Vegetarians know what meat smells like and most of us know what it tastes like. They know where it comes from and they've seen what has happened to some of those poor animals. It's hard enough to even find a restaurant that has vegetarian options besides the house salad and fries on pretty much every menu. So they have enough trouble on a daily basis, just let vegetarians be.

BC students too lazy to pick up after themselves

By KYLE BEALL
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Rip staff writer

Are you just too lazy to pick up after yourself or is living like a pig your true lifestyle? The Rip newsroom is located in the Campus Center, and that question crosses my mind every time I step outside.

I realize that most people were slobs on their high school campus, and maybe it is just idealistic to think that some people would be mature and actually take pride in appearance.

I am not complaining about recycling,

though this school could probably hire a full-time maid with money collected from the cans and bottles littering the campus greens and sidewalks. What is particularly revolting is some people get their food, eat it and just stand up and leave, when a trash can is but 10 feet away.

I have noticed that it is the same groups of people who gather for lunch in the Campus Center and the same individuals who selfishly show no regard for who's going to clean up after them.

I wonder if the mothers of these students clean up after them at home. If that is the case, then I will blame the parents and ac-

cept the fact that these students were not taught any better.

By the end of the day on the Wednesdays when we distribute the Renegade Rip, the campus is littered with newspapers. Though this is distressing, considering that articles I have written are being walked on, my largest complaint is that people read it and then just drop it on the ground.

Once again, this is particularly bad in the Campus Center, which is truly pathetic because there are eight trashcans and two newspaper stands. If folding the newspaper up and putting it back is too difficult a task, couldn't you at least throw it away?

I understand there are always going to be lazy people, but do you have to be one of them?

The SGA along with the Bakersfield College clubs have been discussing taking it upon themselves to pick up after people in a program called Adopt-A-Walkway.

I think it's a wonderful idea but the fact the problem is so bad that the SGA feels the need to get involved is disconcerting.

Janitors are not your mothers. The SGA and BC clubs aren't some kind of prison roadside crew. The fact of the matter is that it's our own responsibility to clean up after ourselves. Stop being a pig.

REVIEWS

John Coltrane paints a picture with his sax

By CHRIS GARZA
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Rip staff writer

One aspect that is quite admirable about jazz is that it is a form of music that does not tell the listener what to feel or think, but paints a picture of what the musicians were thinking and allows the listener to hear whatever it is they want to inside of that picture.

John Coltrane released "Blue Train" on Blue Note Records in 1957. It is an up-tempo hard-bop jazz album and showcases four original songs written by Coltrane along with one soft ballad that he did not compose.

Playing on "Blue Train" is Lee Morgan on trumpet, Curtis Fuller on trombone, Coltrane on tenor saxophone, Kenny Drew on piano, Paul Chambers on bass, and "Philly" Joe

Jones on drums. The album cover displays Coltrane gripping a syringe between his index and middle finger while his index finger rests upon his lower lip. The mouth piece of his tenor sax can be seen on his left side while his left arm rests behind his head. A smug, thought-wielding look appears on Coltrane's face as the whole cover is masked behind a blue façade.

The title track opens the album with suspenseful building blocks of trumpet and piano. Coltrane then enters and synchronizes with Morgan on trumpet to create the sound of "Ba-da-di-da-da" then Drew comes in with "Baum Baum." It sounds like you are about to find out who is the genius behind some well-orchestrated crime on an old detective movie.

That, or maybe Coltrane was signaling some sort of warning call to the listener stating, "I hope you know what your getting into." Whatever it may be, it has a suspenseful and ominous feel to it. This continues on a

few more times before "Philly" Jones kicks in with the drums and everyone else joins in for the time as Coltrane begins his extensive solo. The song moves into a faster direction from here. In the background, throughout the song at random points, you can hear Morgan blowing softly on the trumpet re-creating the sound of a train whistle. Each musician solos except for Jones.

Another interesting part of this song is how the musicians will speed up the tempo for a little bit, and then once you hear Jones snap down on his kit, they break it down into a slower sound.

"Moment's Notice" is the second track on this album and the last one on side A. It begins with Coltrane playing the melody then a slight solo by Drew before Coltrane is sent on his solo. There is a "Boom-Boom-Boom-Boom" played by Drew

before a smooth transition to Fuller's trombone solo. The track begins to make sense as each

member transitions into their solo within a "moment's notice." There is one small break during Fuller's trombone solo that is literally about a half second but feels like a minute as the fast paced music is suddenly halted then restarted. Morgan Chambers and Drew solo next in that order. Chambers manages to solo with a bow and it creates the sound of the high seas. Once again, Jones is the only musician that does not solo on this song. It leaves the listener a little disappointed because it would have fit perfectly in the fast paced nature of the song. A little bang-bang would not have hurt.

As the side is flipped over, the first track is "Locomotion" and that once disappointed listener that was left without a drum solo on "Moment's Notice" should be happy with the opening of "Locomotion" as it opens with a slight solo by Jones. Locomotion could be described as the second part of "Moment's Notice," but with a shot of more energy. The transi-

tions between solos are a lot quicker as well as the tempo of the song. Fuller has the best solo in my opinion on this song. For a trombone player he is moving quickly. He then will subtly slow it down and speed it back up. Morgan and Drew solo next and then Jones is allowed a longer solo to a backdrop of nobody else.

The only song that was not composed by John Coltrane on this album is "I'm Old Fashioned." This is a lovely jazz ballad. The song is slower paced and ironically sticks out quite loudly compared to all of the other ones. This song can either be really depressing, relaxing, or romantic but beauty being the common denominator in all three. It is very soft and each soloist taps into some kind of emotion that may be floating around in your body or mind. The piano solo by Drew is the best one in my opinion because the keys sound so righteous on these ballad type jazz songs. "I'm Old Fashioned," what a fitting title for a love song too.

The last song on the album is "Lazy-Bird." This is still somewhat of a faster song, but it is mellower than the other Coltrane originals. The concept of the title comes into play once each member embarks on their solos. The solos start off somewhat slow, and then gradually get faster as they progress. Kind of like the musicians started off lazy, and then woke up and really started playing. There are a bunch of crisp drum rolls that can be heard throughout this song at different points. This is a pretty playful little song. Playful as in let's go jump and roll around together. Chambers has a pretty ridged solo as he busts out the bow once more. Philly Jones comes in and just knocks your brain around for a minute, then Coltrane comes in and signals what appears to be the ending of the song. In unison the horns play "Whaaa Whaaa Whaaa Whaaa" and then everyone together play in unison and exit the album, ending with another slight drum roll by Jones.



La Colonia restaurant is located at 1809 Potomac Ave.

La Colonia: watery beans

By CRYSTAL ROBERTS
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Rip staff writer

Dim lights, traditional Mexican music, and watery beans are what you can expect when eating at La Colonia restaurant on Potomac Ave., west of Mt. Vernon.

When I first entered the restaurant, one of the hostesses greeted me without looking up from what she was doing, no eye contact or anything. I figured that she was really busy and didn't have time to look up at me. A different hostess, who handed me a menu, then seated me.

The chips and salsa were brought to me by a busboy who asked what drinks I wanted to order. I ordered an iced tea and continued looking

through the menu. As I skimmed the menu, I noticed that the atmosphere was generally clean and neat, the décor was that of traditional Mexican dolls and portraits, with traditional Mexican music playing.

I took time to carefully look over the menu to decide what I wanted. La Colonia featured different Mexican dishes like Camaron Al Mojo de Ajo, which are shrimp sauteed in spicy garlic butter served with rice and beans. I ordered the enchilada combination platter with a chicken taco, which included rice and beans.

Not even eight minutes from ordering my food was it served to me. The beans were very watery and had no texture. The chicken taco was OK, but the chicken lacked flavor and tasted a bit bland. The rice, however, was hot and tasted fresh. The enchiladas also lacked flavor and were also a bit watery.

My waitress wasn't very friendly or helpful. After eating for about ten minutes, she promptly brought my check and didn't offer dessert. The entire time I was there my waitress never refilled my drink or brought me anything. In fact, the busboy was the one who refilled my drinks without my asking, brought me extra plates, and constantly asked if I needed anything else, he even took my dessert order.

My waitress, however, only asked one time if I was doing ok, she acted as though she was uninterested in my needs and did her job in a mediocre manner.

My total came to \$13.88, not bad for an abundance of watery food and a waitress who didn't really pay attention to me.

I recommend La Colonia to anyone who is low on cash and wants a clean atmosphere, but if you're looking for excellent customer service and flavorful food, I would not.

Lost Planet fun, not perfect

By STEVEN MARTIN
Rip staff writer

"Lost Planet: Extreme Condition," a game for the XBOX 360, is an adequate third person shooter filled with ho-hum game play and some "holy crap" moments.

"Lost Planet: EC" involves two of my favorite things, big giant insects and the weapons with which to make them go boom.

In the game, players take on the role of Wayne, a soldier charged with ridding a Hoth-like planet of its alien insect menace and kick the butt of more than a few renegade snow pirates.

Wayne has the age-old problem of amnesia (funny how many people in the real world you encounter with that same problem), and it's up to you to help him unlock the deep dark secrets trapped within his skull.

To be honest the plot doesn't make much sense, but it does serve its purpose of getting you from one action sequence to the next.

This is the best thing "Lost Planet" has going for it, the nonstop "balls to the wall" action; just as soon as you leave one battle ground, you are quickly whisked away to the next.

If you like meeting big bugs with more legs than you have and blowing

them up really nicely with an assortment of weapons ranging in size and power, then this might be the game for you.

An example of this is evident. Early on in the game you have to cross a barren field of ice, and while you are trying to cross, you encounter not one but two giant worm-like creatures, (think "Dune,") that keep popping out of the ice trying to crush you.

The problem is that you are armed with what equates to nothing more than a spit gun; it's up to the player to find heavier artillery and bring the big worms down.

Capcom, the creators of "Lost Planet: EC," must have spent an awful lot of time staying up at night watching the re-airing of the movie "Starship Troopers" because they borrowed heavily from that film.

In fact, saying "borrowed" would be an understatement. It's like saying Anne Frank played an extended game of hide-and-go-seek. Although if you are going to rip off someone, you might as well rip off the best.

The graphics are top notch, with everything from the muzzle blast from your rifle to the "sizzling" myself because this giant bug popped up from the ground in front of me" part.

Esthetically, you would be hard pressed to find a better-looking game on the market. The smoke effects, in particular, are breathtaking and for some reason reminded me of the

visiting officers sealed in the building until they can get vaccinated.

This leaves the Reno group as the only cops able to serve and protect Miami's streets.

Reno's finest have to answer a number of regular calls as well as put up with Ethan (Paul Rudd), a drug lord with the style of Tony Montana.

Lt. Dangle (Thomas Lennon), with his modified skin tight police shorts and his squad of dysfunctional deputies — "the dumbest group of people who aren't legally retarded," as he describes them, often causing more problems than the criminals they are after.

Deputy Trudy Weigel (Keri Kennedy-Silver) captures most of the laughs with her out-there comments

Reno deputies sizzle in Miami heat in their new movie debut

By DONNY VAN SLOTEN
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Rip staff writer

Reno 911: Miami packs bullets of stupid humor, which for the most part serves and delivers laughs.

Much like the Comedy Central show, it's so ridiculous you can't help but laugh.

The Reno sheriff's deputies go to Miami to join in a police convention, but they aren't on the list and get turned away.

A terrorist attack at the convention has the Miami Beach police and all

and actions. Deputy Clementine Johnson (Wendi McLendon-Covey) spends most of the movie searching for the place where she drunkenly got a tattoo of a strange guy on her breast.

Deputy Williams (Nicky Nash) wants to hook up with Deputy Jones (Cedric Yarbrough), but Jones wants Deputy Clementine Johnson.

Deputy Junior (Robert Ben Garant) and Deputy Garcia (Carlos Alazraqui) want whichever woman they can get.

The movie is similar to the show, except for nudity, the number of curse words, and the city it's in.

The movie runs 84 minutes and has a lot of laughs but with some dead air in between.

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'GADE FEEDBACK

What are you going to do for St. Patrick's Day?
Christie Cigich, psychology: "Hanging out with my boy and wearing green."

Jennifer Srouji, criminal justice: "Hanging out with my boyfriend."

Sweeny Decros, human resource management: "I have nothing planned, just studying."

Travis Duhart, business: "To make green pancakes."

Kavir Jones, history: "Have fun with my girlfriend."

Yerania Hernandez, undeclared: "Pinch people who don't wear green."

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NEWS



DANIELA GARCIA/SPECIAL TO THE RIP

Bakersfield College teachers and faculty members rallied on Feb. 27 in support of elementary school teachers in a contract dispute.

BC's faculty support

By EARL PARSONS
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Rip staff writer

Four representatives of Bakersfield College's union were present for a Feb. 27 informational protest coordinated by the Bakersfield City School District.

BC's union representatives were present to show solidarity amongst teachers' unions.

The BCSD union, called the Bakersfield Elementary Teachers Association, is part of the California Teacher's Association, of which BCSD is a member.

The umbrella organization of all teachers' unions is the National Education Association.

"We were out there until it started raining," said Lynn Krause, Treasurer of the Community College Association of the Kern Community

College District and a business professor at BC.

BCSD teachers have been working without a contract since July. While salary issues have been resolved, teachers are having the difference of their increased benefits rates not negotiated in the previous contract deducted from their paychecks. According to Krause, this was done as a "tactic" to "get everybody mad."

BCSD teachers gathered in front of the BCSD Board of Trustees meeting at 1300 Baker St. carrying signs and chanting "BETA, BETA, BETA," the acronym for the Bakersfield Elementary Teachers Association.

Participants in the protest walked in a circle that continued growing as more people arrived. Eventually, the circle grew to encompass an entire square block.

As BCSD teachers are not on strike, the protest was purely informational. The protest was designed to inform the public about the Bakersfield EF-

elementary Teacher Association's collective bargaining woes.

Also present at the event were representatives from Casa Loma School, who were there in support of their principal, Gwen Johnson.

BCSD Superintendent Michael Lingo is proposing that Johnson be moved from the principal's position back into a teaching position, even though the Casa Loma School has met student assessment requirements several years in a row under Johnson's leadership.

Teachers are alleging that the Board of Trustees wants to demote Johnson because she questioned the district's use of funds.

After the Board of Trustees meeting, Johnson told the Bakersfield Californian that she was still principal and hadn't been removed "yet," declining to comment further. Lingo also declined to comment to the Californian, saying that his suggestion was based on a personnel issue.

Jockeys host food bank

By EARL PARSONS
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Rip staff writer

The radio station Play 103.9 FM, along with Golden Empire Transit and a slew of other sponsors, held a charity event at the Valley Plaza to benefit the Partnership Food Bank.

The Partnership Food Bank, which is a subsidiary of the Community Action Partnership of Kern, provides food to destitute Kern county families.

The Partnership Food Bank has been struggling to meet the needs of the community due to this winter's citrus freeze, which left many valley farm workers without a job and forced them to find outside help to support their families.

Play 103.9 disk jockeys Miguel "Mickey Rock" Sanchez and Adie "D-Lay" Wilson vowed to live in a Plexiglas shack for 103.9 hours or until an entire GET bus was filled up with donations to the food bank.

At 6 a.m. on Monday, Feb. 19, "Mickey Rock" and "D-Lay" began camping out in the parking lot adjacent to the Valley Plaza. GET bus drivers on the scene of the "Mickey Rock" and "D-Lay" camp, giving status reports to Play 103.9 FM every 30 minutes.

When the bus was finally filled up with food and donations on Friday, Feb. 23, the two DJs were able to go home.

Representatives from the food bank came by every 15 to 30 minutes to take donations.

Whenever the DJs needed to use the bathroom, they had to go to the public facilities located at the Valley Plaza GET bus station.



Miguel "Mickey Rock" Sanchez lived in a shack for 103.9 hours in an effort to help the food bank raise donations.

However, with the lack of employment caused by the citrus freeze, they have had to find food through the food bank. The camp was set up to help the food bank raise donations.

People brought them whatever they could, and they were able to get a lot of food and supplies. "He said the money was going to be for food and supplies."

On average, the Partnership Food Bank feeds about 30,000 families a month, 50% of which are children.

"Mickey Rock" says that he was "lucky" to have a place to stay during the event. "For kind there was going to be for food and supplies."

On average, the Partnership Food Bank feeds about 30,000 families a month, 50% of which are children.

FEATURES

Citizens celebrate black history with parade

GABINO VEGA
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Rip staff writer

To unify African-Americans in the community, over two thousand Bakersfield residents gathered downtown from 21st and L streets to 21st and R Street Feb. 24 to support the Black History Month Parade.

Gloria Patterson, 51, organized the parade, which had about 200 people involved.

Every year, this parade has been

the last week of February. Don Williams, 38, was part of the event riding his motorcycle with his group called Ruff Riders Lifestyle. "Me, personally, it brings everybody together to have a great time," Williams said.

Pastor Janice Newsome, 47, and Bernice Young, 55, were present at the parade. They are part of God's Chosen Disciples, which is a church group which deals with ex-gang members, prostitutes, pimps, and drug addicts.

The youth department from the

church was in the event with children wearing camouflage shirts, brown pants, and military boots.

This group has been in the event for two previous years. "Giving something kids to do, make them find something constructive not disruptive... it gives them hope and does not let anybody down," said Young.

At 10:16 a.m., four girls holding a sign saying "Black American History Parade" began leading the parade going east on 21st toward Central Park. Around 45 different groups were

within the parade. Among these 45 groups, were The Democratic Women of Kern, Latin World Low-rider, Hot 94.1, Urban-Hi Steppers and Bakersfield Ruff Riders Lifestyle. There were also break dancers giving performances. Inna Carson, the city council member for Ward 1, attended as well.

At the halfway point, judges were standing by watching all performances; the winners received trophies for their performance. The announcements were given at Central Park.

Charlesetta Ortiz, 42, has been watching this event since she was 10 years old, and she said, "The parade was excellent, though, what people could improve by not crowding around the performers (in the judges' area) so others can see."

According to Patterson, over 2,700 people were watching the parade and most made their way to Central Park at 12:30 p.m. People had a chance to listen to church music and have some food, such as tea cakes.

There were a couple of other

places where people went to hang out after the parade, such as Martin Luther King Park, Wilson Park and The Dome. At The Dome, there was a presentation of African Art History which lasted a little over an hour.

Over the last 30 years, the parade has been hosted in different areas, such as California Avenue, Chester Avenue and Frimston Avenue.

Janelle Bailey, 22, current BC student, has been watching the event for five years. "It's nice to see what the community has to offer," she said.

Sidewalk history displayed at BC

By TYRONE C. BARNER
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Rip staff writer

Sidewalk art, organized by the club MAIZE, celebrated Black History Month at Bakersfield College.

Carlos Gomez, president of the club, said this is the first year this has been done for Black History Month and hopes that it becomes an annual event.

The event was spread over a two-day period and if you visit the site you can see it was time well spent.

Gomez went on to say that black history is bringing about awareness to the achievements of African Americans beyond focusing only on Martin Luther King.

African Americans have made major contributions to the greatness of this country and to the betterment of the world, so the reason the month of February was set aside in recognition of their accomplishments.

Gomez also said that it was a chance to show high school students what BC had to offer.

Britnee Espinoza, a student from Highland High School, wanted to show other people that black history was important and should not be forgotten.

She said that she attended the event and would come back should this become an annual event.

The contribution of Espinoza was a chalk drawing of an African American woman.

The main participants were from Highland High School's art club, and they heard about the event from their art teacher who received a flier from the club, MAIZE.

Lisa Mayo, art teacher from Highland, said that when she was presented with the opportunity to do something connected with black history, she put it to the class and they were enthusiastic about the idea.

Mayo said that she felt this would be a positive experience and give her students the chance to practice African folk art and that she would also come back if given the chance.

About 10 students attended the MAIZE club chalk drawing.



VALERIE VIDAL/THE RIP

Carlos Gomez, a member of MAIZE, colors in a large chalk drawing of a clenched fist.

Lack of on-campus activities for Black History Month felt

By TYRONE C. BARNER
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Rip staff writer

Black History Month, is the time set aside to celebrate and recognize the achievements and accomplishments of African Americans. Yet here on the Bakersfield College campus there was no such recognition and Black History Month passed by pretty much uneventful.

The reason given by Matthew Jenkins, president of African American Student Union was planning on having a Black Culture Day with food and bands, but was postponed to a later date, due to the fact that the club has not come together enough to agree on the things they want to do. Jenkins also said that he wants the club to be more established or on a more

solid footing. So events like Black Culture Day were postponed until April.

Sierra Dawson, 19, a nursing major was very disappointed that there were no activities for Black History Month. Dawson said that she attended the Black History parade downtown but would have much rather seen something done on campus.

BC student David Edwards, stated that all around him are activities going on and off campus, so he's not disappointed. It's going to be celebrated regardless.

A criminal justice major, Keishonia Pollard, 19, attended the Black History parade, and her mom had a party to celebrate Black History Month. But Pollard would have loved to have seen something on campus.

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ACCREDITATION: BC consistently achieves success in 'student learning outcomes'

Continued from Page 1

mund or junior college. "It's almost impossible for any college to do everything," Andrews said.

According to Andrews, the standards by which community and junior colleges held up to have greatly upgraded and have become considerably more precise. It is much more typical for colleges to address documented recommendations, Andrews said.

At the bottom of the ratings scale is the suggested termination of accreditation, which is founded on the team's judgment that a college has strayed from accepted standards and policies. Los Angeles Compton College suffered such a termination of accreditation by the chosen accreditation team.

March 4-8, Andrews himself will be part of an 11-team member accreditation group, which will examine Golden West College in Huntington Beach.

The accrediting commission, which has its home base in Navato, CA, includes chairs E. Jan Kehoe of Long Beach City College and Lurelean B. Gaines of East Los Angeles College, helped form a written list of 6 major recommendations.

At the top of the list, the team deemed that the District Strategic Plan should be used to direct the college's strategic focus and educational master plan.

The list states that the college adhere to the Kern Community College District Policy 7D by examining adjunct faculty by implementing appropriate "procedures" that help judge demonstrated ability.

The list states that there must be an accepted documented code of ethics for employees.

The list states a demand that KCCD draw up a frame of reference for the dispersal of funds.

The team also recommends a routine employment of a fully developed self-evaluation procedure. Finally, the team's recommendations that KCCD define the duties of all offices and departments.

According to BC's Ed Knudson, vice president, student learning, the accreditation process is an "ongoing" one, and the formalities associated with accreditation are addressed every 6 years. Speaking of BC's reaffirmed accreditation, Knudson quipped, "We done good."

Andrews believes BC's strength resulting in the reaffirmed status stems from BC's consistent work excellence in "student learning outcomes."

According to a letter issued by BC Professor Janet Fulk to BC faculty, Centro Coso College, College of the Sequoias and Porterville College have been placed on a warning list by the accreditation commission.

SCUBA: First of its kind, scuba class will teach fundamentals and eventually photo diving

Continued from Page 1

The class will be teaching the very beginning fundamentals of scuba since it's the first of its kind at BC. Miller hopes that the class will advance to other dive classes in the future.

Miller said, "Here at BC will be beginning classes, and then hopefully, they will accelerate to boat diving, photo diving and more."

For this semester, the class cannot be used for physical education units but will in the following semesters.

Twenty students will be allowed to enroll in the class.

It will start March 20 and be taught every Tuesday and Thursday from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. If you try to enroll for the class online, it will show that class has been closed.

But if you want to join, meet at the pool on March 20. There will be more instructions on how to become part of the class.

If you are interested in learning more about the scuba class you contact Tina Cummings at (661) 395-4663.

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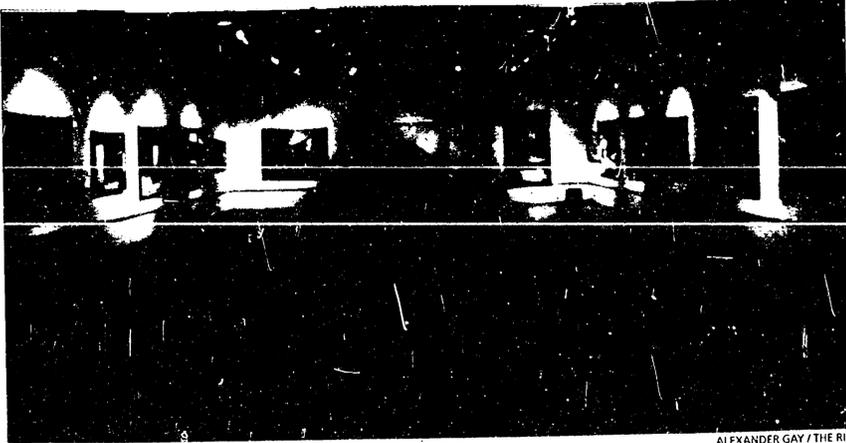
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Downtown Bakersfield

By NICK STOCKTON
The next stop in our cross-city surveys of the different areas in and around Bakersfield lands us in central downtown.



ALEXANDER GAY / THE RIP

Kurt Solmssen's artwork surrounds a grand piano at the Bakersfield Museum of Art located in downtown Bakersfield.

Zingo's Cafe
3201 Buck Owens Boulevard
A classic truck stop cafe right off Freeway 99, they do truck stop food with classic, greasy American zeal.

CL5 Pets
3105 F St.
At CL5 Pets, they put their ice cream freezer (yeah, ice cream in a pet store) right next to the rabbit bins.

McMurtrey Aquatic
1325 Q St.
McMurtrey has two waterlides. Don't go rushing there right now, because it is really cold.

Westchester Liquors and the Filling Station
2408 F St. and 1830 24th St.
Located in adjacent buildings, these are two completely different stores selling completely different kinds of drinks.

Gigantic Vintage
1515 19th Street
They sell locally produced jewelry, art, and music. They have shows, they do tailoring, and they have a steady flow of sweet Aloha shirts.

Big trees in front of the mansion
corner of Cedar St. and 24th St.
These are easily the best trees in Bakersfield. Go ahead and spend some time looking at them.

This gigantic python lies waiting for the moment that some adventurous person will come in to CL5 Pets and adopt it into a loving home.

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down.

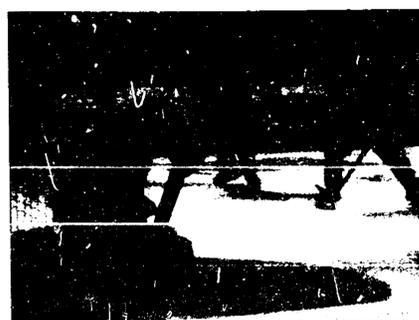
- Across
1. Asian legume
6. Rise to the third power
9. Coward
11. English expression
13. Uphill road
15. Latin American drink
17. Impoverished
18. Remembering
21. To assign as a share or portion
23. Unkissed meat
24. Dr. King's middle name
25. Lyrical acid
27. Protrusion of the lips in dishevelment
28. Approach
29. Sections of a cutfish
30. Cooling vents
31. Ships calling for help
32. Point between LA and San Diego
33. Prehistoric flag with beveled gear
34. Opening in a wall or fence
35. I am
36. Thinking into sheets
38. Moisture at intervals

Spring Fling events focus on community and world

By JOEL R. PARAMO
To begin and promote Spring Fling Week, for the next three weeks the Bakersfield College Student Government Association has planned activities geared towards helping charities and organizations that help other people.

CSUB hosts on-site admissions seminar for easier access

By EARL PARSONS
The Bakersfield College and Cal State University Bakersfield Title V programs collaborated on an on-site admissions seminar that took place Feb. 21-22.



ERIK AGUILAR / THE RIP

The Bakersfield Condors' goalie Jamie Hodson stops the puck that Stockton Thunder player Jim Dahl throws at him Feb. 9.

Condors reach out

By ASHLEE FLORES
The Bakersfield Condors hockey team is about more than making goals and shooting the puck. It's about reaching out to fans.

Archery class gets A

Bakersfield College is the only campus in Kern County to offer this course. It has been available since 1990.



ALEXANDER GAY / THE RIP

Francisco Millan and Nicholas Neufeld practice their shot.

By KYLE BEALL
You don't have to hit the target to get an A in Bakersfield College's archery class.

Advertisement for National University featuring a portrait of a man and text: 'The degree that was designed with YOU in mind.'

Advertisement for 'Dancing until midnight' featuring a photo of a breakdancer and text: 'A breakdancing competition was held at Golden State Mall on Feb. 23 and 24 from 2 p.m. to midnight both days.'

Advertisement for 'The Renegade Rip' featuring the text 'THE RIP.COM' and 'MORE PICTURES', 'UPDATED STORIES', 'STORY PREVIEWS', and 'CONTACT US'.

Sports Stats

Table of sports statistics for Feb. 28, March 2, and March 3, listing various sports like Softball, Baseball, and Men's Tennis with scores and records.

Hitting close to home: Meet the pitchers

■ Sophomore Nathan Albert: Everything you want to know about the pitcher that was drafted by the New York Yankees.

By TAYLOR M. GOMBOS
tgombos@bakersfieldcollege.edu
Rip staff writer

Nathan Albert is a sophomore pitcher for the Bakersfield College baseball team. He was drafted in last June's draft by the New York Yankees in the 45th round. Albert has a passion and commitment for the game of baseball. No matter what is going on in his life, Albert always has fun on the baseball field.

Head coach Tim Painton used the words "power arm" to describe Nathan Albert. "He is a guy that was blessed with an above average arm," said Painton. "He's a guy that shows up and tries to do his job. The ceiling is the limit for him."

Rengade: Where were you born?

Nathan Albert: I was born in Bakersfield, California, in 1987

RR: What position do you play?

NA: Pitcher.

RR: Do you consider yourself a pretty good pitcher?

NA: I like to think that, I do my best.

RR: How long have you been playing baseball?

NA: Basically my whole life since I was five.

RR: Any favorite memories in your baseball career?

NA: Getting drafted was pretty good. I will always remember that.

RR: How were you drafted by the Yankees?

NA: I was out here playing last year when a scout came up to me and said he liked what he saw. I got an information packet and a business card with his name on it.

At the end of the season when the draft was coming up I was informed that I was most likely going to be drafted at that time. I did not know by whom. The day of the draft I got a phone call. It was a scout for the Yankees calling me saying we just drafted you.

RR: How did you feel after you got drafted?

NA: I was happy. I wasn't going crazy over it. I told my family about it. I didn't want to make a huge deal out of it.

RR: What inspires you?

NA: I guess you can say my family. I kind of motivate myself. I want to go out there and try and do better than last time. Every time I go out there I like to do one step better than the last game.

RR: Do you have any superstitions, wash your socks, play with the same glove; why?

NA: I try not to be too superstitious but most games when I pitch I'll wear the same attire to the ballpark. I'll wear sweats and a hoodie. I wear that when I throw. It's something I did the first couple of games. I just kept doing it.

RR: If you don't mind me asking, why didn't you sign with the Yankees? Did it have anything to do with wanting to improve your draft status?

NA: It's like a draft and follow so there was no money involved; I'm under contract with them (New York



ERIK AGUILAR / THE RIP

Bakersfield College pitcher Nathan Albert warms up before the game against Glendale on March 1.

Yankees) kind of so no other team can get me in the draft. When the next draft comes up, I won't have to be in it because I have already been drafted. The Yankees will assess me from this season to see how much better I've gotten.

RR: Which team is your favorite team to face off against?

NA: I don't really have a favorite, I like going out and throwing to everybody. I just like going out and competing. I like Pierce a little bit because they are our rivals, I don't have a favorite. I just like to go out there and throw.

RR: What is your favorite pro baseball team?

NA: I watch the Dodgers a lot because they always come on. I like the Twins a little bit; no real favorite, I watch them all.

RR: What high school did you go to?

NA: Stockdale High School.

RR: How does college baseball differ from high school baseball?

NA: The speed of the game is faster at the college level. In high school you can throw fastballs right by people and not think twice about it, but up here you throw a fastball in the middle no matter how hard you throw it.

RR: It's going to get hit hard, you really have to hit your spots and you have got to know how to pitch.

RR: Do you prefer to pitch at home or on the road?

NA: I actually prefer being at home because I'm used to our mound. I know our ballpark and everything real well. It's better pitching here. I know how everything going to go here.

RR: Does pitching at home give you a homefield advantage?

NA: I guess you can say that. I know how the ball carries here, I know how deep our field is, how the grass is, how our mound is. I think that's an advantage.

RR: Is there a teammate that you seem to work pretty well with, in particular?

NA: I work pretty well with everyone. I work real good with Edgar Sanchez. Him and me come out here and work a lot. Kyle Witten and I work a lot together, and we get along real well.

RR: What in your opinion is your best game pitched this season?

NA: Probably opening night stats wise, that was the best game that I pitched. Opening night was real good. I threw real well, went to the ninth inning and ended up getting a loss on that one, but I pitched well. That is probably the best pitching performance I've had.

RR: What are some goals that you have for the rest of the season?

NA: My goal coming into the season was to perform to the best of my ability, to come out and try and be a starter this year. I didn't want to be in the bullpen. I like being a starter.

■ Sophomore Kory Marko: The softball team's most valuable team asset handles curveballs by just practicing more.

By KATHERINE J. WHITE
kwhite@bc.cc.ca.us
Campus editor

When life throws Bakersfield College softball pitcher Kory Marko a fastball, she appropriates her father's dictum: "Practice harder."

Consistent hard practice, according to BC softball coach Sandi Taylor, has made Marko one of the team's best pitchers and a valuable team asset.

"Kory on the mound is our strength," Taylor said.

Marko says she stands firmly in place to field any and all of life's curveballs; she adheres to her supportive father's advice to persevere, and she is also very devoted to her daughter Kayli, who is almost 2 years old. Marko says her loving father practices on the BC baseball field with her before softball practice as well as on the weekends.

"He makes me work hard," Marko said. "He wants me to do my best."

Marko's signature pitches are her curve and "rise" balls. According to Marko, the rise pitch "goes below the belt, and it rises to the head."

Marko admits that her life is fairly stressful with the bases loaded with home life, school pressures and team life. According to Marko, she had her daughter before enrolling at BC, and, of course, the demands of motherhood are great and the pressure of academic and team life are equally great. Nevertheless, as her father often tells her, she says, hard work and perseverance "does it all." Marko's father was also an athlete and played as a forward on his high school basketball team. According to Marko, her daughter Kayli appears to be developing athletic abilities; Marko says her daughter "runs really fast."

The 19-year-old BC sophomore with an undeclared major played softball for three years at her alma mater, Garces High School, and won three Central Coast Section championships from her freshman to junior



ERIK AGUILAR / THE RIP

Bakersfield College pitcher Kory Marko pitches against L.A. Pierce on March 1. The Renegades won 11-0.

years. She says she has been a pitcher since the fourth grade.

Marko says that softball is the perfect sport for her. Marko concedes that she was not tall enough to play basketball, nor is she particularly strong. With softball, the athlete does not have to have a particular body type, she said.

As for her team, Marko says that the team is "hitting and fielding better this year than it did last year." According to Marko, so far there have been "no bad games" this year with egregious errors. However, more importantly, Marko says that the team always "comes together as a team." Marko believes that all of her team members should always "show up

mentally and not just physically." In other words, the team members should not allow themselves to be distracted and to always focus on the game, she feels.

According to Coach Taylor, the team did not possess a lot of experience at the beginning of the season. However, the team members, according to Taylor, are "quick learners." According to Taylor, the team's slugging abilities are good.

The team beat Cuesta 8-2 in San Luis Obispo Feb. 27 and also walloped L.A. Pierce 11-0 at BC March 1. March 2, the team destroyed Ventura at BC with a score of 11-1. The team's conference record is 2-1, and the team's overall record is 9-5.

New tennis coach leads women

By TAYLOR M. GOMBOS
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Rip staff writer

The Bakersfield College women's tennis team started their season on Jan. 15. The team is under the leadership of first year coach Glenn Lundquist.

Lundquist comes to the Bakersfield College with 10 years at Calicut, LTD where he coached the tennis and competitive swimming teams. He has coached girls from high school to college and has won several year before the start of the season.

Lundquist listed several goals for the season. "My goal is to better and improve the overall ability of all the women who come out for the team," Lundquist said. "Another goal is to establish a competitive and how to win. Lastly, I want to see all individual players and teams into a team."

Lundquist said that these goals are a work in progress and he is confident that the team will achieve them.

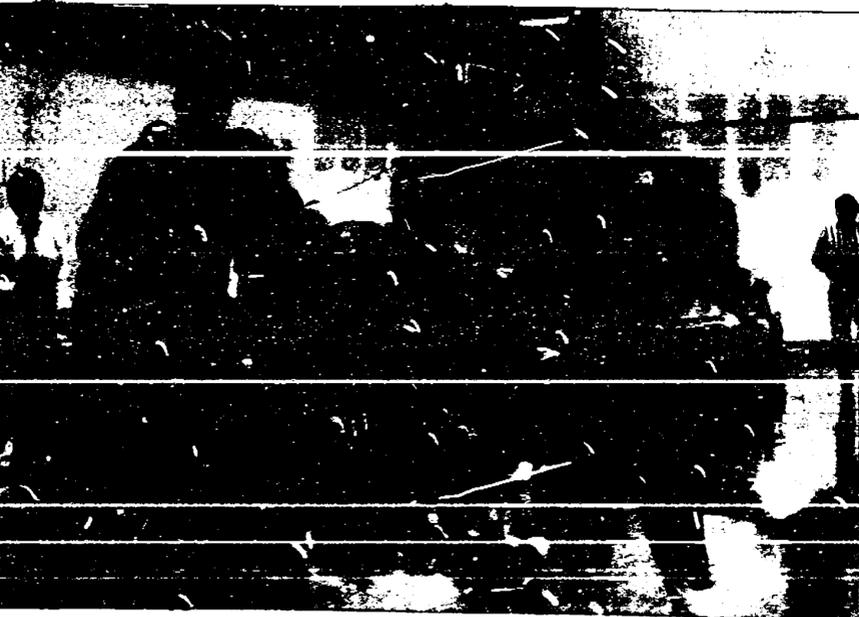
Right in the heart of the excitement of this year's team, one of the women who he mentioned was not having enough playing time for the team this year.

"Our schedule is not as full as last year," Lundquist said. "We have six full-time players and two part-timers who can only play the home matches because of class schedules."

According to Lundquist, the team has a tremendous amount of enthusiasm and dedication. "In the short time that we have been here I see substantial improvement from every one of them," Lundquist said.

Lundquist said he was pleased with the team's performance in their first match at the Bakersfield College of Bakersfield where the top two players, Elizabeth and Antie Cowan were playing doubles. They came back from a 4-1 deficit. Another highlight was the play of sophomore Elizabeth, who was particularly good in her singles matches," added Lundquist.

The women's tennis team will host Ventura College on March 9.



ERIK AGUILAR / THE RIP

Bakersfield College guard Steve Alford tries to get the ball from College of the Canyons forward Everett Bryson in a game Feb. 14. The Renegades lost in the playoffs Feb. 23.

Men lose playoffs to Santa Ana

By CRYSTAL ROBERTS
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Rip staff writer

The Bakersfield College men's basketball team lost its chance to continue in the state regional playoffs against Santa Ana College on Feb. 23.

The Renegades started out slowly, trailing Santa Ana by eight points. BC eventually regained the scoreboard taking a 10-point lead after halftime. It seemed as though all was going well for BC when Santa Ana slowly caught up and eventually won 92-91.

The Renegades went into the playoffs seeded first in the southern region and an overall record of 30-2 and an 11-1 mark in the Western State Conference.

"It was a very tough loss, one of the toughest losses we have had because we had such high expectations," said BC Head Coach Rich Hughes.

Many players felt that they play to their full potential. Sophomore Law-

rence Billings said he could've scored more, and also said "Not everybody contributed like they should have." Sophomore Andrew Ready felt that the team could've played better.

"In the first half I should've been patient, I was trying to do too much, I was over-focused. It wasn't until the second half that I was focused and patient," he said.

Ready also said he thought the officials called too many fouls, but added, "Our defense needed to be stronger, if people played with more heart and urgency and passion, we probably would've won."

Sophomore Aaron Perez was devastated about the loss but said, "I am very proud to set the best BC record in a regular season."

Perez felt that he personally could've pumped up the team more and played better defense by blocking more shots and taking more charges.

Freshman Daniel Williams said he was depressed after losing. "I could've grabbed more rebounds and

worked harder." Williams will be returning next year and plans on leading BC to a state championship.

Hughes also said the team will try to contend for another state championship and make it into the playoffs. "I want to make it a yearly thing," he said.

Hughes plans to continue the standard that this year's team has set. "I like our freshmen group, we should continue the tradition that the sophomores started," he said.

As for the departing sophomores, they plan to continue their basketball career at other universities, many receiving offers from various schools around the nation.

Perez received many offers and plans to attend Cal Baptist. Ready, undecided as to where he will attend next year, has received offers from Portland State and Utah State.

Billings, also undecided, has received offers from University of Alaska, Fort Hays State and Metropolitan State.

THE RENEGADE RIP

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Bakersfield College

March 21, 2007

Painful lessons learned in Korean Marines

By **KATHERINE J. WHITE**
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Campus editor



Kim

ing on his bunk bed twisted over and also for speaking more than a handful of words or for saying the "wrong words" to a higher-ranking officer.

According to Kim, a lower-ranking military enlistee can only say "Yes," "No," "Thank you," "I will find it," and "I cannot hear." For saying, "I'm sleepy" to an officer during his "coastal protection" watch, Kim was punched in the torso by a "bad-tempered" officer and sustained a broken rib.

In fact, during this particular incident, Kim was kicked and "hit ev-

erywhere" around his face and body. One of his other punishments for other offenses included being forced to place his head on the ground with his hands clasped behind his back. Kim said lower-ranking men were also beaten for not laying down towels straight after wiping off the floor. According to Kim, the punishments and the degree of punishments depended upon the officers.

Kim says that these types of punishments are now banned in South Korea's military branches.

After running the gamut of military rigors that included parachuting, shoveling and sometimes carrying boats on his head, Kim rose from being a private to a sergeant. Kim said his ranger training took two weeks and included running with a rifle. His airborne training was three weeks,

and his IBS or "Inflatable Boats Small training" lasted two weeks. Rifle training took place for one day each month. Personal training, which including weight training, was arranged three to four days a week. Every day recruits played soccer or basketball. According to Kim, the training that featured climbing with ropes was the most excruciatingly painful.

"I became physically and mentally strong," Kim said. "We were always hungry, but we were real soldiers."

Kim said he lost 45 pounds during his six weeks of basic training. He was trained on Baek-Ryung Island, which is located approximately five miles off the west coast of North Korea, Kim said. Despite the hardships Kim suffered, he said he has a special pride for his country's military

and also for his having served in his country's Marines.

Kim admits as a sergeant he became a bit "abusive" to his lower-ranking charges, although he never broke anyone's ribs.

Kim says that military service in South Korea is mandatory, but that people can choose which military branch to serve in. Kim says two years is the average time length for military service in South Korea. Unfortunately, his military branch does not offer benefits. Kim says that individuals wanting permanent jobs in the South Korean Marines must devote at least four years of service.

Interestingly, women can enlist in the South Korean military, and they can become officers. Kim said that a lot of South Koreans, including the South Korean military, consider the

U.S. a friend; however, most South Korean university students do not like the U.S.

Kim says if South Korea goes to war with North Korea within the next five years, he will have to go back and fight because technically he has five more years of inactive duty left to serve. Kim says his 22-year-old brother, who graduated high school in New Zealand, is in the South Korean army with only a month left to serve.

He says that unlike him, his brother was never physically abused by high-ranking officers because his brother got into the military after the abuse ban went into effect. Kim will transfer to the business school at either USC or New York University with an eye towards becoming a finance manager or an investment banker.

He was slapped for snoring. That is what happened to 25-year-old Bakersfield College business major Seung-Hwan "Sam" Kim when he served in South Korea's Marine Corps. Kim is currently a calculus and lower-division math tutor for BC's Tutoring Center.

For a meager \$300 a year, plus room and board that included what Kim said was terrible food, Kim took a lot of abuse at the hands of his higher-ranking officers for a little over two years. Kim got into the South Korean Marines April 2002 and got out in May 2004. He came to the U.S. in March 2005.

Kim said he was cuffed for sleep-

Online election for SGA

By **EARL PARSONS**
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Rip staff writer

Student Government Association elections will be held during Spring Fling week, March 26-30.

The seven paid positions of president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, general counsel, activities liaison and legislative liaison will be voted on during Spring Fling. These positions pay minimum wage and require that the students work from 12 to 19 hours per week.

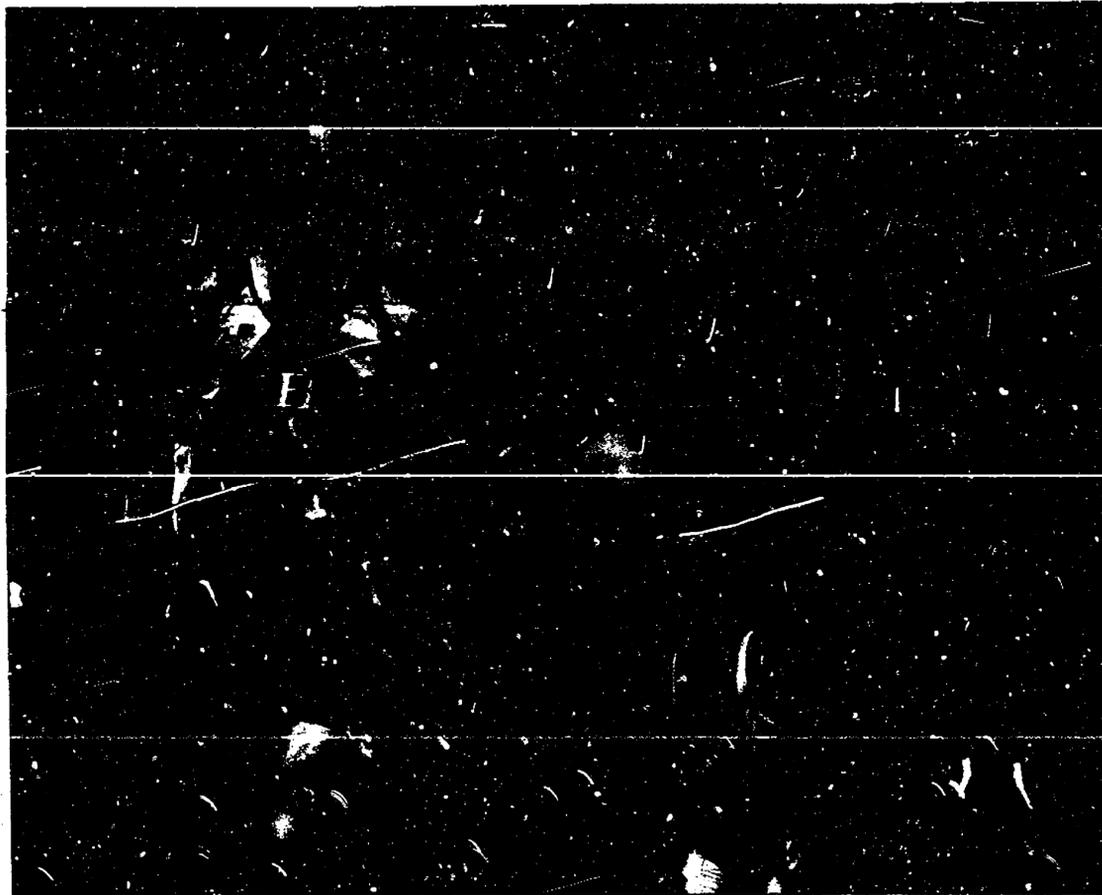
There are also 16 student senator positions and 16 commissioner-at-large positions available. Students in these positions are not paid and are voted in by the SGA. Senators are required to work five hours per week and serve on at least one committee, while commissioners-at-large are required to work two hours per week.

The candidates in this year's SGA election were announced on March 20 at 4 p.m.

According to Osmond Parra, SGA secretary, the most important quality in an SGA representative is "the will to represent students. It becomes part of their duties to represent the school."

This is the second year that the voting will be held online through the VoteNet program. Students can vote online any time from 12:01 midnight on March 26 to 11:59 p.m. on See ELECTIONS, Page 3

Rounding the bend at the BC Relays



ERIK AGUILAR / THE RIP

Bakersfield College's Seth Freeman battles against tough competition at the 800-meter race where he finished in 1 minute, 58 seconds at the BC Relays on March 17. For more photos and story, see page 12.

Hit-and-run accident dents squad car

■ Woman cited by city police for suspected misdemeanor hit-and-run accident. Suspect was released due no injuries to persons.

By **KYLE BEALL**
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Rip staff writer

A hit-and-run occurred on the Bakersfield College campus March 6 that damaged the driver-side door of a BC public safety cruiser.

Su Htun, 21, of Bakersfield, allegedly backed out of a handicapped parking space in the BC Fine Arts staff parking lot, impacting with an unoccupied public safety officer's sedan and then kept driving around 4:57 p.m.

According to a report filed by public safety officer Jason Mattheus, he returned to the 1998 Ford Taurus to find that the driver-side door of his cruiser was "caved in."

Witnesses reported to Mattheus a description of the car that allegedly

struck his cruiser and Mattheus then radioed the vehicle description.

According to the report, Senior Public Safety Officer Ric Cox observed a vehicle matching the description driving south on Haley Street from University Avenue.

Cox followed the vehicle and Htun reportedly pulled over upon seeing that Cox was following her.

Bakersfield Police Department Officer Robert Enos arrived at Haley Street and Height Street around 5:42 p.m. where Htun, Mattheus, and Cox were waiting.

Enos cited and released Htun for suspected misdemeanor hit-and-run resulting in property damage, since no one was injured.

According to the report, Htun does have insurance.

The damage to the cruiser has not yet been assessed.

None of the public safety officers involved in the accident and detention of Htun were available for comment.

Contact information for Htun could not be obtained.



STEVEN MARTIN / THE RIP

Damage to the driver's door of public safety officer Jason Mattheus' squad car is suspected to have been caused by Su Htun as she backed her car out of a handicapped parking space.

Safety lights upgrade

■ Code Blue system is aging, with four of the units not working, and will be replaced in a matter of months.

By **KYLE BEALL**
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Rip staff writer

Out of the 12 emergency call stations located on the Bakersfield College campus, or Code Blues, only seven are functional. Four of the Code Blue phones don't work at all, according to Mark Graf, chief of the department of public safety.

"That will all be resolved here in the next six weeks," said Graf.

According to Graf, spending for a new Code Blue system was authorized by the Kern Community College District Feb. 21, and the agreed upon deadline for the installation is May 1.

"We've been working very hard to correct this for a very long time," said Graf.

According to Randy Patterson, interim director of construction for the KCCD, the total package for the new Code Blue system will cost "just under \$30,000." Serban Sound and Communications will be installing the new system.

The Code Blues that don't work are supposed to have an out-of-order sign attached to them. Upon close inspection, it was found that not all of the inoperable call stations did have signs up and those that did are illegible. However, there is an out-of-order sign attached to one of the call stations that does work.

Recently, students in BC club MAIZE attempted to use the Code Blues to contact the public safety department to put some equipment away after their chalk walk event on Feb. 24.

According to Zulema Garcia, 19, after sunset, around 6 p.m., MAIZE members spent at least 45 minutes trying to reach a public safety officer after trying several of the Code Blue stations that don't work.

"We started pushing the button out here. We tried looking for their car. I decided to walk around the whole campus. I even went to the security office, and nobody was in there," said Garcia. "It was really creepy, I walked in there because the lights were on, but there was absolutely no one in there."

"I asked one of the security guards ... I told him, 'Well, what am I supposed to do if I am getting attacked or something,' and he was like 'well, you can use your kung fu fighting,' and he was making a joke out of it when it's a really serious thing," said Garcia.

According to Sgt. Chris Counts, the Code Blues have proved very See CODE BLUE, Page 3

NEWS

Firefighters practice low-visibility situations

By KATHERINE J. WHITE
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Campus editor

The disconnecting blur of flashing fire truck lights along the Panorama Drive bluffs this March should ultimately prove comforting.

The Bakersfield Fire Department activity along the bluffs should be very comforting especially considering that hypothetical scenario drills are being done there in the interest of honing the rescuing skills of professional firefighters and Bakersfield College student firefighter trainees.

That is what Bakersfield City Fire Department Battalion Chief Doug Greener says, and he also emphasized that the bluffs are a "great resource" for drills, particularly for what he terms "high-angle rescue" scenarios.

Greener is a leading participant in

the current bluff drills taking place between Monday and Friday this March. According to Greener, the state has mandated that fire agencies perform a number of hypothetical night drills specifically geared towards addressing the unique problems firefighters and paramedics face due to "low-visibility" situations.

Greener says that the bluff drills are addressing both complicated high-angle situations and low-visibility situations. According to Greener, professional firefighters as well as trainees need to continually refresh their memories on how to address various complicated and specific situations requiring expertise in hoisting injured individuals and their vehicles over steep precipices.

According to Greener, the procedures include "stabilizing the car and extricating" the injured party.

Greener speculates that there have been roughly five to eight incidents in recent years requiring knowledge on how to handle steep-angle rescue situations. Greener says vehicles used for the drills were donated to the fire department by local Bakersfield business Jim's Towing.

Coordinator for the BC Fire Technology Program Tim Capehart says that high-angle rescuing procedures entail "shoring," a general term used by firefighters, which includes implementing "cribbs" or wooden blocks to help elevate a wrecked vehicle away from the injured party and places the vehicle in a proper position for safely hoisting it upwards from the bottom of the precipice.

Inflatable air bags and air hoses are also deployed in this situation to further elevate the injured party and the vehicle. Capehart says after the car has been stabilized and the victim is then secured by a spine-protecting backboard and transferred to a "stokes basket" and lifted from the wreckage site. According to both Greener and Capehart, the bluff drills are exact reenactments of procedures implemented on the field during actual emergency situations.

According to Greener, the top priority is always the treatment of the injured party after the individual has been extricated from the vehicle. Since patient treatment is the top priority for the attending rescuing crew, the mangled vehicle may have to be cut by rescuers in order to remove the victim. Rescuers swiftly maneuver themselves to address any potential fire problems due to fuel spillage at the location of the accident. At the scene, multiple hoses are at the ready for deployment. Protection of attending firefighting and paramedic personnel is also a top concern, Greener said.

According to Capehart, who is not engaging in the current bluff drills, the bluffs and other local areas such as parts of Hart Park are used for other skill-enhancing drills every year including "fire break" drills.

According to Capehart, drills addressing the "summer fire season"



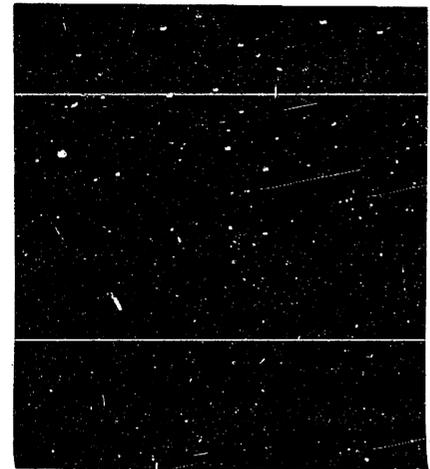
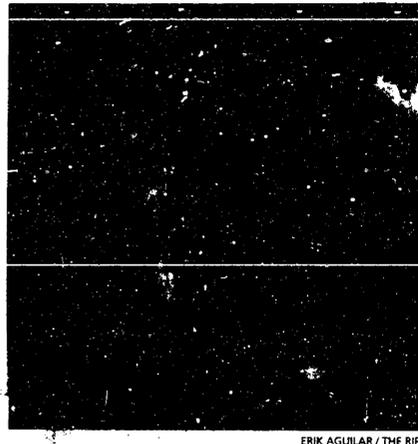
Above: The Bakersfield Fire Department practices rescuing a dummy trapped under a car. Below: Members of the Bakersfield Fire Department go up a hill to simulate transporting an injured person as part of a drill on March 15th.

are important and are frequently enacted. Summer is fire season with both camping activity and dry vegetation in fair abundance, he said.

According to Capehart, professional firefighters select an isolated area full of dry brush, clear an area of some of the vegetation, and in the remaining vegetative area, deliberately create a fire through the use of a "drip torch."

Student fire-fighting trainees as well as professional firefighters go through drills in which the simulated fires are "cut" or quenched. However, student trainees are not allowed to set drill fires because of their lack of experience and expertise; only professionals are allowed to both create fires and to cut them, Capehart says.

BC's fire program has special "Dozer" classes specifically designed to instruct trainees on how to cut fires created in drills as well as fires in actual emergency situations, including how to cross a "backfire," which is intended to burn into another fire that is either deliberately or accidentally caused.



Members of the Bakersfield Fire Department work together to remove a dummy from a simulated car crash scenario.

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NEWS

McCarthy returns for chamber luncheon

By ASHLEE FLORES
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Rip staff writer

The Greater Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce invited Congressman Kevin McCarthy to speak in Bakersfield for a luncheon March 16 held at the Holiday Inn Select.

McCarthy is the 22nd Congressional District Representative of California. According to the biographical summary given, the 22nd district includes fertile agriculture, rich energy resources, strong military facilities

and growing communities.

Registration for this event began at 11:30 a.m. GBCC Chairman of the Board of Lightspeed System Scott Garrison began the luncheon with a welcome and thanked the Chamber of Commerce, Vons and their other sponsors for taking part in the event.

Garrison then asked Keith Brice, the GBCC chairman of the board of Mid State Development Corporation, to lead a prayer and U.S. Chamber of Commerce Dick Castner led the assembly into a flag salute.

The crowd began the talk to one

another smiling and laughing as lunch was being served. Halfway through the meal Garrison asked the crowd to welcome McCarthy with a round of applause.

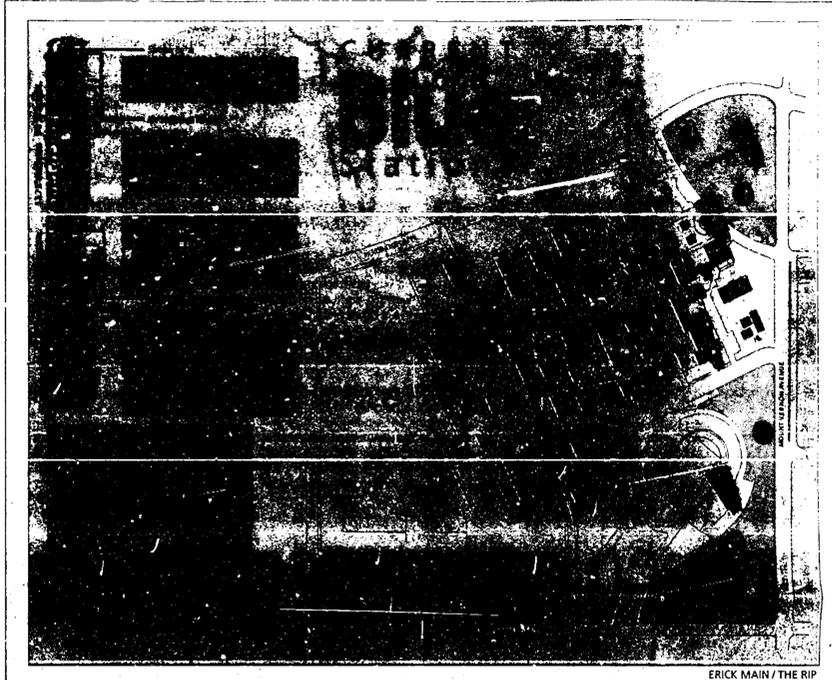
McCarthy thanked Bakersfield and began to speak on his report from Washington.

McCarthy began to give background information on what he has been doing as a freshman in office and how he has become part of the house administration, agriculture community, Homeland Security, (that includes dealing with security for airports,) boarders and all aspects of security.

McCarthy also gave insight on the Iraq war, "There are three things that I see in Washington debating about Iraq, we can currently stay or withdraw but then what would happen? Or change direction with a new plan. But the biggest mistake is to leave it messed up."

McCarthy also stated, "It's a different war that we have never fought before."

He also talked about the presidential candidates that are currently



CODE BLUE: Sites to be reinstated in May

Continued from Page 1

helpful against crimes in progress. "We're able to respond a lot quicker, to provide safety for the community here," said Counts.

According to Graf, a fast response time to all calls is a priority. "When the Code Blues are working, our response time is less than a minute," said Graf.

According to Counts, the Code Blues are available for anyone to use if they need assistance or help with something. "Go ahead and hit the button, it's not just for emergencies. We're there for the community seven days a week, 24 hours a day, anytime we can help out," said Counts.

Races bring out vintage visitors

By JEREMY TERRAZAS
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Rip staff writer

An estimated 35,000 to 40,000 fans and about 500 racers gathered at Famoso Raceway from March 9-11 for the 49th anniversary March Meets, known as The Jewel Of Nostalgia Racing.

The first races took off at 8 a.m. Friday morning to begin the time-trial preliminaries, leading up to Sunday's final race. Some of the racers and fans come to the event every year, and, for some of them, it was their first time out.

Team Vipers comes out every year led by their captain Francis. "Last year was the only year that we weren't able to make it out here, because of the rain," one Viper said. They come out to uphold the tradition of their World Famous Grill, which was set up in what appeared to be an old dragster body.

When asked what the Vipers come out for, aside from doing some barbecuing, they said that usually they come out for the "burnout" races. "The burnout and show" is, however, this year, according to many Vipers, it has been more about racing than usual.

If anyone else came out to do a little drinking and eating there were certainly enough outlets to indulge. Aside

from the actual races there was a swap meet style shopping area, and next to that, an outdoor row of quick hot-dog stands and barbeque.

A lot of the racers appeared to be superstitious, and not eager to speak before their race. Tom Moore races every year, and this year had a new car, a dragster that he built from the ground up, with no help from any sponsors.

He spent about \$1,400 to get it race ready. It only took him one year to get the car up to 750 horsepower.

When asked if he has ever seen a crash, or been involved in one he said, "Hey! We don't talk about that at the racetrack, don't jinx me!"

He went on to say that there have been fatalities in the past that he has seen, but that they try not to think about that sort of stuff on race day.

Rob Greene, a mechanic for JKR Racing from Orange, came out to the races for his first time this year. He was preparing Shannon Spears' car, Nurse Ratchet, for its first big day out.

Nurse Ratchet is a 1968 Olds Mobile Ambulance, with a 500-cubic inch Chevy engine, with 900 horses to propel its 3,500-pound.

They spent two weeks and \$50,000 getting Nurse Ratchet up to racing standards. Not only did this car appear at the Famoso Raceway, you may have caught it on TLC on a show called "Customizer."

NEWS BRIEFS

Speaker will discuss lives of strippers in BC talk
On March 21, Dr. Bernadette Barton, a professor of sociology at Morehead State University, will be discussing her study on the lives of exotic dancers titled "Stripped."

The discussion will be held in Bakersfield College Fireside Room at 7 o.m.

Cheerleading tryouts
BC Cheerleading Tryouts will be held Monday March 26-30. Orientation and first practice are Monday, March 26 in the BC Huddle.

The clinic is taught Monday-Thursday from 4-6 p.m. Tryouts are Friday, March 30th in the Dance Room.

Tryouts are open to both male and female applicants.

Information packets are available in LA 215C on the BC campus.

For more information contact Becki at (661) 395-4619 or www.bakersfieldcollege.edu/athletics

Campeño struggle subject of upcoming film showcase
On March 28, MAIZE will be hosting an event that showcases two films that document the Campeño struggle in the Central Valley.

Lori De Leon from the Dolores Huerta Foundation will be speaking about the influence of Cesar Chavez and the UFW in our community. BG's own Jack Bringham will also be speaking. The event will take place in

the Fireside Room from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, contact Carlos at (661) 599-4748.

Sigma Gamma Rho host fashion show at Fox
The Sigma Gamma Rho sorority will be hosting the 49th annual Ebony Fashion Fair at the Fox Theater April 4 at 8 p.m. The world's largest traveling fashion show will feature various designers.

Tickets are \$40 each and the proceeds will benefit local scholarship programs in the Bakersfield area. The cost also includes a subscription to Jet or Ebony magazine. Tickets can be purchased from Bakersfield College's campus contact for the show, Debra Strong. Her number is 395-4337.

Renegade Room wine-tasting event

By EARL PARSONS
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Rip staff writer

The Bakersfield College Food and Nutrition program hosted its second annual charity wine dinner on March 16 to refurbish the Renegade Room.

According to Chef Pat Coyle, "This [was] the biggest, fanciest thing we have done all year."

Students in the BC culinary arts program prepared every course on the menu. Chef Coyle, Alex Gomez and Suzanne Davis supervised the culinary students who worked diligently in the kitchen the entire evening.

Very rarely does a BC-sponsored event serve alcohol, but since this wasn't a student event, the culinary program was able to serve wine, although they had to satisfy all the requirements necessary to obtain a license for serving alcohol.

After some assorted hors d'oeuvres served with champagne, Coyle talked briefly and when everyone was seated, the first course was served, which was roasted pecan soup with apple-zucchini relish.

The second course, barbecue shrimp with Maytag blue cheese, grits, mustard greens and crispy onions, was served with white wine.

A blood orange and passion fruit sorbet was served before the main entrée, maple-grilled and balsamic-glazed petite veal chops with sweet potato hash and a Kern County green bean medley. It was served with red wine.

After a salad with roasted baby beets, asparagus and wheat berries, a trio of chocolate desserts was served with three decorous dipping sauces.

The sorbet and the entrée were prepared by the advanced culinary students, while the bread and dessert was prepared by the students in Davis' baking class.

After dinner, a raffle was held using tickets that were sold for \$1 a piece or 7 for \$5.

Some of the items given away at the raffle included bread, turnovers, Merlot, Chardonnay, BC Food and Nutrition department cookbooks and golf snirts, cookies, a cookie jar, and gift baskets from the BC bookstore.

Coyle, a culinary professor at BC since 1979, said that he enjoys watching his students grow and become more confident in their culinary abilities.

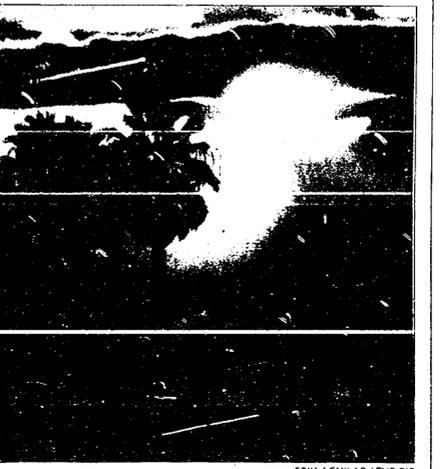
"Some of these people [at the event] are regular customers. They see the new guy with shaky hands serve them their plate at the beginning of the semester and get to watch him build confidence as the semester goes on," said Coyle.

Last year's charity event paid for a new carpet and ceiling fans for the Renegade Room, which is BC's restaurant and culinary arts classroom. With the proceeds from this year's event, the BC Food and Nutrition program wants to put carpeting in the Renegade Room.

The proceeds from the wine tasting event are also used to pay for state competitions that the culinary program attends every year.

The Renegade Room operates during the semester on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., and on Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Thursday dinner is typically a buffet showcasing ethnic foods.

Classic California sunset



This sunset was viewed off the Panorama bluffs before a rainstorm.

ELECTIONS: Laptops will be open in breezeway in front of Fireside Room during week of March 26-30

Continued from Page 1.

Average voter turnouts for colleges are very low, around two percent.

According to Rodolfo Correa, SGA vice president, this may be due in part because community colleges are computer colleges, where students take the necessary classes required for them to transfer to a four-year university or go straight into their career.

Because of this, student participation in campus events is typically lower.

There will also be laptop computers that people can vote from in the breezeway next to the Fireside Room. Last year, the first time that voting was held online, 617 students or around six percent of BC's student population voted, "double the number that voted the year before when we did not have online voting," according to a press release from Dean of Students Don Turfey.

STAFF EDITORIAL

Spring Break needs to go

This time next week, Bakersfield College will be in the middle of Spring Break.

This vacation was originally designed to be the break in-between the second and third quarters at most four year universities.

Is a spring break necessary at our community college, when it does not provide a break between different quarters, but instead breaks apart a single semester?

At CSUB, and other schools following the quarter system, the spring and winter holidays are recovery times in between the quarters, a time for students to recover some brain cells that were damaged during the cram sessions for finals. While the winter break does provide this service for the break between the fall and spring semesters, there can be no such argument made for spring break.

Some may argue that spring break is a needed remedy for mid-semester fatigue. This argument is easily dismissed when one notices that there is no comparable vacation time during the fall semester.

If this break time was necessary, then the fall semester would also need to be broken apart by a prolonged Thanksgiving break, or something comparable.

Instead of allowing brains to rest, it serves only as a cause for distraction. It causes a lapse in the learning cycle; some students surely have a hard time getting back into the flow of a semester that is still technically in-session.

Spring break could realistically be done away with, while allowing students to finish their spring semester a week early, without having to make up for the interruption and the "rehabilitation" that is needed after returning from it.

It is the opinion of this newspaper's editorial staff that the spring semester is not inherently more strenuous than the fall. Because of this, the Rip does not see a benefit for the students of BC in breaking apart the semester with an unnecessary vacation.

PMS applies to not only women, but men

By LILIANA FAHEL
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Rip staff writer

Headaches, bloating, sugar cravings and cramps are just a few of the 150 possible symptoms of Premenstrual Syndrome. However, the symptoms that commonly create tension and possibly even breakups in relationships are irritability, depression, anxiety, and of course those horrible mood swings—"I love you. I hate you! No, no, I really love you!"

Are women "bad" or "crazy" for this dreaded time of the month, which is almost completely beyond their physical control? Absolutely not. Because of lack of information and awareness of what really goes on in a woman's body, many relationships tend to falter or be significantly affected by PMS. These symptoms and physical challenges are completely hormonal and are not a personal vendetta against mankind.

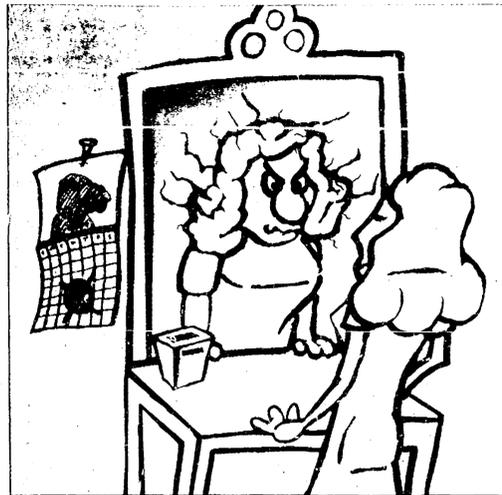
According to Alternative Cures, "a number of nutritional, hormonal, and psychological factors can create an imbalance during this time, so that a woman feels the extremes of the premenstrual period."

The way I see it, men go through PMS just as frequently and sometimes even worse than any woman ever could. I think it's hilarious just how sensitive men really are—to their own needs, not yours.

Men have chemical imbalances, nutritional deficiencies, mood swings, irritability, and even the sugar cravings, not just once a month, but sometimes every day, except when it's him, it's just considered a "bad day."

I don't think so buddy. Ladies when your man is having this so-called "bad day," I'm sure you're expected to absorb the shocks of his sharp tongue and then soothe and massage his ego until you make his boo-boos all better. Dare you not show sensitivity you're instantly considered a "bad girlfriend."

Sure, I can appreciate that men are just built entirely differently than women are.



ERIC MAIN / THE RIP

Men have a cutthroat mindset, they're hunters by nature with hardly any time for emotional technicalities in an "eat or be eaten" world of competition.

Their manhood is challenged daily and they don't do well with the opposing side, (women). Once they're done hunting and gathering, they've exhausted all of their efforts mentally and physically and they find affectionate contribution a petty issue. For your information guys, what seems petty to you, means the world to your girl.

Expectation and disappointment are a couple of the major causes of breakups and divorce between a lot of couples. Women expect love and affection; men expect respect

and validation.

It's quite simple really — gentlemen, to avoid chaos in your otherwise orderly world, (and this is just between you and me now,) there's something you can actually fake and you still get to have the orgasm, too! Fake some affection and caring a couple of days a month and look at how great the return on your investment will be.

Shhh, don't let your ladies know I gave you this valuable piece of advice. Women just need a little validation, every now and then. Show her that you understand that her pink world is upside down right now and assure her that things will be fine; in just a few days she'll bounce back and paradise will be

in order once again. Look, I'm a believer of "men are from Mars, women are from Venus," but the bottom line is, while both sexes are from different planets they must still cohabitate here on planet Earth. One sex completes the other, just like the Yin and the Yang. Men are not emotional beings by nature. Keeping in mind that they are, in fact, wired totally differently from women and consider themselves to be the more sensible, logical and an emotionally balanced sex, why should it be so hard to apply some of that sensibility and balance and just empathize those few days a month?

She's not just any old broad. She's your woman for crying out loud, possibly the mother of your children. Once a woman shows the slightest hint of a PMS symptom, she's a relationship pariah until the coast is clear again.

No sensitivity, no understanding, no soothing of any sort is demonstrated. I'm thinking if she's hung around long enough to withstand his aggression, irritation, and possible fits of rage and temper, then she's definitely worthy of a little compensation in return.

It doesn't take a genius. Give your pockets a break and skip the diamonds. A little tender love and care will keep you clear of relationship turmoil. This is actually something you should pay more attention to than the football game duds.

Most men tend to think that avoiding a woman during PMS is the best thing to do. Fools, watch out fellas, you're just adding fuel to the flames. Avoiding the situation may worsen things and possibly send your woman into severe depression. Guys, a little patience and understanding wouldn't kill you; after all, your grandmothers, mother, and sisters went through these difficult conditions.

Gentlemen, concentrate your attention on the good you found in your lady, which made you fall head over heels in love with her in the first place. A few bumps here and there once a month are no reason to head for the hills. A little love and compassion goes further than one might think. A few mood swings and a shade of irritability shouldn't shake a solid foundation.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Response to: Bakersfield boredom leads to drinking

Editor: This is in response to "Bakersfield boredom leads to drinking." It was truly a misrepresentation of our town.

This was a typical stereotype of Bakersfield. Church, video games, beer pong? What a sad claim. I constantly hear young people say that there is nothing to do in this "boring hick town."

This is their own fault. This is your own fault! There is not a lack of entertainment opportunities in Bakersfield on any given day or night.

Open your eyes to the many different ways to occupy your time. Pick up a local alternative newspaper.

This Monthly Resource is full of current events, from local theater performances, to live music, and art shows or exhibits. Most events are free and open to all ages.

Go enjoy a silly two-person play at The Empty Space, support a new local dive band, or go appreciate the art and creativity of featured artists.

Hot pick up a map of Kern County. Within an hour drive we have a ski resort, hot springs, free campsites, hiking and biking trails. The options are endless.

Bakersfield has an awesome zoo with native animals and vegetation and an educational museum that is always holding events. The Fox Theater plays excellent international films biweekly. You can't beat the price of four bucks a film.

Join a local organization and become a volunteer. You can truly learn to appreciate your community if you take a part in it. Fun and educational classes are offered all over town to meet every individual interest. Bring your girlfriend or a group of friends on a late night picnic in one of our beautiful parks, have a barbecue or cooking party. Get creative.

Not one thing mentioned involves church or drinking. Bakersfield offers countless low-cost entertainment opportunities to all age groups. The art and music culture is on the up and up in this small town and we live close to the mountains, ocean and city.

Please look into local resources and do something about your boredom, because entertainment is not lacking. Nobody likes stereotypes, so don't fall into one.

Michelle Mearing, child development major

Response to: Black History month

Editor: For the past two years, the Criminal Justice faculty has celebrated Black History Month by presenting movies focusing on the African American experience in America. We announce the films through bc all, the campus-wide listserv. We also award extra credit to our students who attend. In the past, other faculty members have asked that we collect a sign-in sheet for their classes as well.

We show the films in the Forums. Past films have included "Unforgivable Blackness: The Rise and Fall of Jack Johnson," "The Tuskegee Airman," "Four Little Girls," "The Scottsboro Trial," "Selma, Lord, Selma!" May we suggest you use the bc.all communiquest when it comes out next year in January as a basis for some publicity from the RIP for our film series?

Best wishes,
Professors Christian Zoller and Peggy DeStefano
criminal justice

MAC vs. PC: who really cares?

By EARL PARSONS
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Rip staff writer



ERIC MAIN / THE RIP

A computer is a heartless machine that only knows how to do what it's told.

It's not your pet, and it's not your significant other. It's not even that weird cross-eyed guy you see on the bus that attempts to sell you his booger collection.

That's why I could really care less about the petty differences between Macintosh operating systems and Microsoft operating systems.

Whether the button to get to the Internet is called Internet Explorer and has a lowercase "e" as its icon, or whether the button is called Safari and has a compass as its icon is really inconsequential.

All I care about is if the mindless brute actually functions. I don't want to have to perform any carriage returns when I type my term paper.

All the techies out there just need to put their pen protectors back on and go watch an episode of "Battistar Galactica" because I can't understand your twisted computer vernacular.

You can RAM that lingo up your CPU, and just bite me. When I said I was writing this, some techie just goes off on how Mac is better than PC, even going as far as to explain it with diagrams written on the board.

The arguments for and against both are always the same. PC has more viruses, but there's more available software for it. Mac is incompatible with a lot of software, but has a more chic look and is more user-friendly than PC. There aren't as many Macs as there are PCs, but Apple has had a steady incline since the release of the iPod and iTunes products.

These arguments have been going on among American oligopolies since the dawn of laissez-faire capitalism. Pepsi vs. Coke and Ford vs. Chevy debates will continue on until the end of time, (or until one of the two goes out of business), because it gets down to the issue of personal preference, and the Mac vs. PC is the same way.

One thing I will say against Mac: Their mouse generally doesn't have a right-click button. It's kind of annoying that you have to go to the top of the screen every time you need to do something.

Macintosh is kind of like Microsoft's pot smoking older brother that's actually smarter than Microsoft, but isn't able to keep a job as long as Microsoft can.

Macintosh came up with all the good ideas first but was too lazy to do anything with them, so Microsoft stole them and called them his own, tossing Macintosh out the street because he wasn't needed.

Now, Macintosh put down his Chong bong and his sack of Purple Kush for good, made up with his brother, and now they warmly compete with each other on the New York Stock Exchange.

So don't let the geeks trick you into buying what they want. Let them bicker among themselves, and make your own personal choice about your personal computer.

Theories on why men and women cheat

By DONNY VAN SLOTEN
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Rip staff writer

No one likes a cheater. I don't know why. Men have always been known to cheat, but today women are just as bad. Now I'm not saying all women cheat, but you cheaters know who you are.

One reason for women cheating is because they feel insecure about themselves or their partner. Loneliness can be another cause for women cheating. If a man is at work all day and his spouse doesn't work, it could get lonely for the spouse. Let's face it, men will say anything to get some.

Women may fall for these words. If her partner and her get in a fight and some Romeo tells her the right things after: BAM! You have a cheater.

A survey taken in the UK states that 40 percent of females cheat on their partner compared to 34 percent of males, according to thesun.com.

A more popular cause for women cheating is due to alcohol. I've seen it before and not just once, many times.

If I had a dollar for every time I've seen or heard of this happening, I would be rich.

Out of all the times I've seen women cheat, I've got one instance that I will always remember. I went to a party with a buddy of mine. We met up with a female friend of ours, who was boasting to her friends about how much she loves her boyfriend.

She had put down a few drinks already and didn't seem to let up as the night went on. When my buddy and I were leaving we noticed our same female friend getting into the back seat of a car with some dude, who wasn't her boyfriend. My point is alcohol can make people do some stupid things, one of which is cheating.

Another reason for women cheating is for revenge. Whether the woman found another girl's lipstick in her man's car, saw him with another girl, or whatever other infidelity he may commit, a woman will seek revenge.

There are also women out there who are habitual cheaters. They cheat because they want to or they need to in order to boost their self-esteem. For whatever reasons it may be, women cheat just as much as men, if not more.

I finally broke through and discovered it doesn't have as much to do with the sexual act itself as most women would presume; in fact, it's often not physical at all. The roots and origins of why men

commit infidelity are emotional and psychological factors such as low self-esteem, feelings of inadequacy, feeling neglected, unappreciated, or not validated, and many times it's a cry for attention and done on impulse.

Women tend to question themselves—Was I not pretty enough? Was I not good in bed? Does he not love me anymore?

More often than not, when a man cheats on his wife or girlfriend, it's with a less attractive woman. Men don't necessarily look for prettier women or women who are more sexually inclined.

They look for women who expect little or nothing, who are pleased with a minimum.

The less a woman expects from a man, the less pressure and the less he feels put down because of his assumed failures to provide.

Stop questioning yourselves and start questioning the circumstances. Good men, who love their wives very much, cheat. What women don't take into account is that at one point or another, cheating will cross a man's mind. Most men think about it and are tempted to do it all the time, but

the thought becomes more serious and possibly even a reality once the woman becomes negligent, not as attentive as she used to be, busy with kids, work or the everyday burdens of life.

Many of you would find it interesting to know that while men pride themselves on being the stronger and more practical sex, they pout and cry for attention once they feel like they are last on a list of priorities.

Once the circumstances of their home life decline, men aren't as obliged to weigh the consequences of what an infidelity might cause in their relationship.

They're lured into the arms of women who massage their egos, tell them they're powerful as-f strong and lie at their feet making them feel like sulitans.

Man's subconscious needs blind his better judgment and he doesn't stop to think about how high the cost may be.

While he's proven to himself, his friends and others that he's "still got it," he's totally derailed his relationship and deeply wounded a woman he truly loves.

Men are oblivious to women's emotional makeup and needs. The force of this type of betrayal can hit a woman like the force of a tsunami.

Women immediately adopt the notion that if men cheat it is a reflection on them or rejection, which can make forgiveness feel almost impossible.

Ladies, they're running from a problem, not you. Look, if a man has a woman who keeps her appearance up and demonstrates love, affection and support, and he's still cheating, then bottom line is he's a dog; however, if he's genuinely a decent man, yes, there's hope that he can turn around and be faithful once again.

There's no justification for cheating whatsoever. Keep in mind, I only listed a few of the many possible reasons of the everyday realities that may contribute to the act of infidelity.

Of course, it's hard to move past something as painful as cheating. But, once the transgressor is brought to light and understands how much he's hurt the one he loves and takes the steps in accepting responsibility, the relationship may very well be restored.

'GADE FEEDBACK

What do you think about skateboarding on campus?

Andrew Campos, undeclared: "OK. It helps people get to places."

Tiffany Gregorio, human biology: "I don't really think about it at all."

Kevin Galloway, engineering: "I don't care as long as they aren't flippin' their boards in my face."

Chelsea Pigvat, liberal studies: "As long as I don't get ran over I don't care."

Sarah Oxford, nursing: "I think it's cool."

Cam Abram, history: "Who cares?"

Compiled by Alexander Gay / The Rip



Winner of the 2003 JACC Pacesetter Award

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THE RENEGADE RIP

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REVIEWS

'300' takes you back to the days of gore

By STEVEN MARTIN
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Rip Staff Writer

The movie "300" is a film filled with violence, political infighting and images of vivid sexuality. In other words, it's a film you'll probably love.

One of the great things about this film is that its plot is easy to follow and not convoluted; it's simple with-

out feeling simplistic. "300" is based on the Frank Miller graphic novel of the same name. Let's face it, most movies based on comic books blow harder than Paris Hilton finalizing a record contract. This is not the case with "300." The film is a brutal look at the cost of war and the men who are brave enough to fight it. "300" tells the story of the Battle of Thermopylae, which took place in 480 B.C. It's the story about the battle-hardened Spartan warriors who due to political infighting and

corruption are forced to take on King and self-proclaimed God, Xerxes (Rodrigo Santoro) and the over 100,000 strong Persian Army with just 300 soldiers. Due to their limited numbers, the Spartan King Leonidas (Gerard Butler) decides to wage the battle in the Thermopylae mountain pass where its narrow pathways act as a grand neutralizer to the overwhelming Persian horde. The battle is twofold really, as the Spartan warriors fight valiantly. Leonidas' wife, the strong-willed Queen Gorgo (Lena Headey),

pleads with the Spartan council to send more troops to help in the war effort even as Theron (Dominic West) poisons the council. The movie is an epic; everything about this movie is amazing. "300" is beautiful and has a very dream-like quality. Films simply don't get better than this. The acting is superb, and the actors convey a wealth of emotion and do it all convincingly. I admit that I had never heard of any of these actors when I walked into the theater, but their performances were ones that I will never forget.

This movie is violent, very very violent, gory and visceral; it makes the movie "Gladiator" look like a visit to Sesame Street. Limbs are hacked off, and animals are forced off of cliffs. Do not take young children to see this movie, or you'll be repeatedly explaining to your children why people's heads were constantly falling off. As violent as this movie is, it never felt gratuitous, battles are violent, and this movie certainly conveys that point. The violence can be hard to watch at times, so the overly sensitive should not see "300."

The music in "300" is varied and grand. The battle score scores get your heart beating like a drum and if it doesn't then your dead inside. This is a movie where anyone can find something to enjoy. The pacing of this film is excellent never letting you get bored with any aspect of it. The bottom line is that I loved this movie; as soon as I saw it, it became one of my top five favorite films of all time. I can't say enough positive things about "300." This movie gets a 10 out of 10.

A Bit of Germany just a bit good

By CRYSTAL ROBERTS
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Rip staff writer

A Bit of Germany, a tiny little restaurant on the corner of Mount Vernon Avenue and Flower Street, featured mediocre food and pleasant service.

At about 12:50 just after lunch began, I went down to A Bit of Germany to try a new meal. I entered a tiny little restaurant that looked as though it used to be a house.

I was greeted upon entering by a waitress who had a smile on her face and showed me to a booth. As she gave me my menu, I noticed that she was wearing a traditional German dress that looked like it should've been in a movie. I also noticed that the restaurant was not extremely clean, it seemed as though everything was old and the atmosphere was a bit muggy and a little thick. The waitress took a while to ask what drinks I wanted; she was visiting with other customers who had already finished their meal. After they left, my waitress promptly came to take my order. I then looked over the menu. The menu featured a variety of different German food that included Bavarian Gulasch, which is a dish that has tender cubes of beef in a specialty sauce served over spaetzle, and numerous German sandwiches. I decided to order something that I was a little familiar with, pastrami with a pickle, it came with the op-



A Bit of Germany has so-so food and good service.

tion of split pea soup or German potato salad; I chose the German potato salad. After waiting for about ten minutes my food was brought out to me. The sandwich was ok, it didn't have very much meat in it, and I felt as though I was eating bread with mustard alone. The potato salad looked like mushy pineapples; however, it tasted like breakfast potatoes with mustard. After waiting with an empty glass of ice tea for about 12 minutes, I finally got a refill. A Bit of Germany was not the greatest restaurant and didn't have the greatest food, but it did have very affordable prices from \$5.95-\$28.95, there is something to fit everyone's budget. On a scale of 1-10, 10 being the best, I would give this restaurant a four.

Willie had a sad sound in his mind

By CHRIS GARZA
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Rip staff writer

Shadowed by the popularity of the 1976 album "Wanted! Outlaws: Waylon Jennings, Willie Nelson, Jessi Coulter and Tompall Glaser" was Willie Nelson's other album released that same year "The Sound in Your Mind", which went by as subtle as the music that it etched onto the vinyl.

Released on Columbia records, the front cover depicts Nelson with a downward glance and a slight smirk as his blue bandana holds back his red hair.

The album is a mix of originals, old country covers, and the Nelson's arrangement of "Amazing Grace" that has a mellow touch to it. All of the songs have that steady rocking chair sound to them and are all pretty depressing. I wouldn't suggest this album if you are looking to start the day out on a giddy note because you will not have the slightest giggle resounding inside of your body. Well, maybe. "If You've Got the Money I've Got the Time" is a witty little funk number about people who get used for their money by pocket-thieving swine. It is told from the perspective of a broke down bum who dates rich girls just so they can pay his way into places. The afore mentioned song is not a Willie original as well as the song "I'd Have to Be Crazy". Although, "I'd Have to Be Crazy" is probably the sweetest, most humorous love song that I have probably ever heard. With such lines as "I'd have to be weird to grow me a beard, just to see

what the rednecks would do. I'd have to be crazy, or plumb of my mind to fall out of love with you." The Harmonica, played by Mickey Raphael, is played in just the right moments throughout this album. It will come out of nowhere and it feels like an uplifting touch on the neck. Very subtle and fits right into place. The backside of the album features the title track as well the closing medley, both which were written by Nelson. These two songs offer a quaint compliment to each other. "The Sound in Your Mind" is a sad little romper about getting that person out of your mind and reminding that person that that same sound is you in their mind. The last track is a medley of the three songs "Funny How Time Slips Away", "Crazy", and "Night Life." They all flow into each other and this could be described as a blues and country number. It has some very appealing guitar solos by Jody Payne. The band get away from that mellow sound, which they possessed throughout the entire album and pick up the tempo on the last movement of "Night Life." It's somewhat of a bi-polar movement because they will be playing very steady and then just drop it all and go back to that downer sound. "Listen to what the bees are saying. The night life ain't no good life, but it's my life and that's okay," Willie explains. This album is not the happiest piece of music that was ever recorded, but it is still a good listen. If this does not appeal to you, check out his country-reggae album "CountryMan." He is also going to be performing at the Eagle Mountain Casino in Purterville on April 26.

Korn strips their sound down to its cob

By MARGINDA COIL
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Opinions editor

Forget all the mainstream hits and albums because Korn created an album that is legendary: Korn Unplugged.

Although Jonathan Davis considers Nirvana Unplugged as legendary, Korn tops Nirvana because they use a lot more interesting instruments that don't need a socket to sound sensational. Korn combined all their hit songs, their "idols" songs, and a variety of sounds to create a memorable album.

Acoustic guitar, percussion, and an upright bass are some of the instruments that rock throughout the album. However, the cello, keys, musical saw, glass armonica, cimballo, trombone, and tiako drums really add to the album's uniqueness. While the musical saw and glass armonica creates a sort of earnestness, the cello and keys bring sounds together, and the Japanese tiako drums add depth to their music. Blind, Hollow Life, Falling Away From Me, Love Song, Got The Life, Twisted Transistor, Coming Undone, and Throw Me Away are all Korn's hits used on this album, but they rise above their original sounds to a new depth. Besides the lyrics, they all sound like a different song.

The traditional acoustics are present throughout the album as well as Jonathan Davis' harsh sounding voice accompanied by his beautiful smooth voice and falsetto, rarely heard by Korn fans. Another famous hit on the album is Freak On A Leash, sung by both Jonathan Davis and Amy Lee of Evanescence, which had debut on the radio first to attract fans to their new album. It worked! Although Jonathan Davis took a risk, he did not disappoint one nor did Amy Lee. Amy Lee was just as passionate singing this song as she is singing her own. The band also took a risk singing Radiohead's Creep unplugged. Jonathan once again uses his hidden voice to make this song one of the album's best. Have you ever heard Jonathan go high-pitched? Then listen to the song. The last song does not disappoint me either. The beginning lends itself to the tiako drums, which adds depth to the drama. Although I love every song on this album, "Make Me Bad/In Between Days" is another song sung by Jonathan and The Cure's Robert Smith that truly makes the album that much more memorable. I never heard two distinct voices that are the complete opposite mesh perfectly to create music so beautiful.

It is hard to convey the extent of legendary this album is, but once it is heard then you will understand.

BC BRAINS

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

Deanna Giles, nursing: "Bars during prohibition in the 1920s."	John Sears, undecorated: "A club in the 1920s."	Vanessa Singh, communication: "An underground bar in the 1920s when alcohol was banned in the U.S."	Mike Lopez, art history: "A jazz club in New Orleans."	Valerie Topik, political science: "An underground bar in the 1920s when liquor was prohibited."	Bert Wyatt, public speaking: "An illegal bar in the 1920s where people would drink illegally."
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FEATURES

Balls To The Wall: Paintball

By NICK STOCKTON
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Editor in chief

In my first ever round of paintball, I was the last guy standing on my team. I know for a fact that I personally took two of the other guys out, and I think that I got a third. Then the final opposing team member made a mad dash up the left-hand side of the field and shot me in the chest and arm. I never saw him coming, and I dropped my gun in frustration. But at least the paintballs didn't hurt as much as I thought they would.

What the guy that shot me did was called a run through, and it is one of the craziest things that Michael Coyes sees when he comes and plays. Coyes, a junior high school teacher, has been playing for about three months. I pulled him aside when I first stepped on the field and confided in him that it was my first time playing, and I asked him

for some advice. "Keep everything close, don't let anything stick out." He illustrated by showing me how to tuck my gun close to my body and keep my legs underneath me. I tried to keep my conversation with Coyes on the down low, because I didn't want the other players to know I was new and single me out for a turkey shoot. This was only one of the misconceptions I had about paintball, and it was rooted in another misconception: That the paintball rounds were going to be every man for himself. However, they split us up into teams, and this made my first time a lot easier. In order to clear up this and other ideas that I had about the sport, I went and spoke with one of the experts.

Gene Hanson, co-owner of Gorilla Paintball, says that the first paintball games were played over 25 years ago, by a bunch of guys with cattle-marking pistols. "They would argue

about who could survive the longest in the wild, using wit, intelligence, strength, or natural ability." He continued, noting that the first recorded game happened sometime in 1981, "they finally decided that whoever would win the paintball game would be the manliest survival man."

His comment touched on something that I had been thinking about as I walked up to Gorilla Paintball. It had been pondering if when one strips away all the trappings and the jargon of the sport, is paintball really just a bunch of people pretending to kill one another? I had been wondering if this was healthy at all, or were we just lying to ourselves if we didn't try to confront these feelings of homicidal competition against our own species.

I've never had a lot of patience for philosophy, so instead I put this thought to the test, which was to go and try it for myself. When I stepped onto the paintball field, I had three distinct disadvantages: one logical, one physical, and one emotional.



Left: Nick Stockton and his teammates shoot while running for cover and trying to keep from getting hit. Below: Stockton holds his hand up after being shot of his first ever paintball game.

The logical disadvantage was by far the strongest. Although I did have a bit of experience on the makeshift backyard BB gun battlefields of Shafter in the late 90's, I had never played paintball before in my life. And in these BB gun wars, it was always a paranoia fueled every-man-for-himself mentality, played out by hiding behind trees and bushes trying to pump up my BB gun enough so I could make a nice welt on whoever I ran into. My physical disadvantage was with my legs; I had been doing squats at the gym the day before, and my legs were very sore. This made crawling down and moving quickly a challenge. I tried to prepare by stretching, and doing some pushups to get my adrenaline going, but I was still at a disadvantage.

Finally, I was scared. No one wants to get shot. A person may opt to get shot at for the thrill, or to prove they are tough or whatever, but no one really craves getting shot. So again I admit, I was scared of getting shot.

Even though I knew that the paintballs probably didn't hurt that much, I was still scared of getting shot. I knew that this psychological hindrance would be put to rest if I could just feel what the guns hit like. I thought about asking one of the guys there to shoot me, just so I knew what I was in for. This idea died in the same way that many badass ideas die: I ended up thinking about it too much.

When the first two rounds were over, I was shaking with adrenaline and could barely write down notes as I interviewed some of the players. I asked Philip Escalera, 16, who attends South High what kind of advice he gives to new players. "Try to be faster than the other players, stay out of the open," he tells me. This may seem like pretty obvious advice, but when I was out on the field it was very hard to keep both of

these things in mind at the same time. The absolute hardest thing was trying to find the balance between being an offensive and a defensive player. In the end, the game felt more like a sophisticated version of tag than a reenactment of "The Most Dangerous Game." However, there was a moment during the final round I played when I was crouched behind a barricade, being barraged by four opponents that some of my earlier reservations about the game came about again. I thought about how scared I was to get up and fire shots at my opponents at that moment, because all I could and feel were their rounds pummeling my barricade. I wanted to stand up and go all Rambo on them. But I also knew that it would suck to get shot, and that I didn't want to get taken out. But I knew that no matter what way the game went, I would be alive afterwards.

Your mortality within the game is very fragile, and everyone gets shot out from time to time. Even the most experienced player gets copped by a newbie occasionally. So, I had a thought about real soldiers, in real situations similar to ours. Except in their situations, their life was on the line, and if they were not faster than the other team, if they did not stay out of the open, and if they did not keep everything close, then the mark on their shirt would not be a streak of paint.

But the game is not war, and there are few hard feelings afterwards. Hanson went on to draw a contrast between real battle and a game of paintball. "One of the earliest things I noticed about this sport that set it apart from war games, is that it is such a social sport." Hanson helped a customer fix his hopper (the magazine that holds the paintball rounds),

then he continued, "You go out and play on the weekends, then you go to work and talk about how much fun you had with all of your buddies. You want to come back and work out new strategies and get better."

The Gorilla Paintball Indoor field is located on 5421 Alhambra Court and is owned by Hanson and his business partner Jerry Ross. I would like to thank Hanson for his explanation of the sport, and a special thank you to all the players who did not take advantage and light me up like a Christmas tree.

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Far above: The basic gear carried and used by players during paintball competitions. Above: Gorilla paintball carries a large selection of paintball guns, protective equipment and other accessories needed.

CROSSWORD

1. Down: A word that describes a person who is very nervous.

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3. Down: A word that describes a person who is very angry.

4. Down: A word that describes a person who is very sad.

5. Down: A word that describes a person who is very tired.

6. Down: A word that describes a person who is very hungry.

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17. Down: A word that describes a person who is very poor.

18. Down: A word that describes a person who is very famous.

19. Down: A word that describes a person who is very unknown.

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Title selected for city-wide reading event holds up to lofty expectations and praise

By NICK STOCKTON
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Editor in chief

"All The King's Men" is a book that intimidates. It has been coined as the quintessential read on American success and the supposed inevitable corruption that comes with it.

It follows the rise of Louisiana Governor Willie "Boss" Stark, through the eyes and mind of his hired man, Jack Burden.

The synopsis seems like a cliché: A country boy rises from the dirt through his ideals and becomes a successful lawyer and politician, becoming completely consumed by the process.

The readers wonder why they would need to read an entire fiction novel on a subject that is easily covered on a front page news article on any given week. But it is neither the corruption nor the politics that drive this book, it is the uncontrollable forces that drive the two together.

The title of the book is so iconic, that the readers are placed in a mindset as though they are going to try to tackle "The Grapes of Wrath", or "War and Peace." The problem with novels given the label of being "one of the classics", is that they are now placed in the same category as books that are excerpted for required high school reading. This makes the idea of reading the book more of a chore than a pleasure.

To compound this problem, the novel does not have enough sex, violence, and cussing in the first chapter to break into that simple place in the imagination where a reader is easily hooked. But, if the reader is willing to pay attention not only to the story being told, but to the storyteller, they will be rewarded with incredible suggestions and subtleties. Jack Burden as the narrator is a former

newspaper reporter and columnist. He is embittered, and haunted by a lack of success that he seems to feel is his due. He is intelligent, talented, and resourceful. He notices, but does not focus on, his own corruption. This is where the novel finds its application.

If the readers focus on Jack instead of Willie Stark, they find that human connection that is needed for a novel to take its grip. Jack was unwilling to take on front responsibility in the cause of his own corruption. Because he followed Stark, he is corrupted in the same way that most everyday people who are corrupted.

As individuals, we are most often corrupted not by our own personal motivation and greed, but because we choose to follow the policies and procedures of whatever organization or individual we have joined. In this way, we can shirk some of the responsibility off of our consciences by the feeling that we have been acting only by proxy.

The premise of being a political novel is also intimidating, given that politics are a subject that many Americans are intimidated by. Everyday people who are political junkies are given the stereotype of being polarized, argumentative, and standoffish.

Most political junkies are not fascinated only by the political process, but are largely interested only in one party's domination over the other. These are people who are very in touch and vocal about their ideals.

In the same way, the label of a "political novel" tends to make the reader think that this is a book that is supporting a particular political view. However, this book does not support any political movement, past or present. It is by and large an exploration of ethics.

This is not a political novel. Whoever decided to coin this book as a "political novel" should be cast into shame, along with whoever it was who decided to call a political organization a "party" (Republican Party?

Republicans don't know how to party!). This is a novel about power and the people who wield it.

Politics, in abstract terms, is the contest of one idea over another. In more concrete terms, it is the pursuit of power by organizations and individuals. While these terms justify the motives behind the characters' actions, they do not sum up its theme. This book examines motivations and processes that make us feel helpless to stop once we make certain choices.

The book is also respected by many intellectuals. This can be a death knell in any medium where the work is supposed to have a universal appeal.

In the simplest explanation possible, something that intellectuals like is probably going to be interpreted as boring for the rest of us. This is the reputation that plagues National Public Radio and PBS, and is probably the same reason why a guy who is really into AC/DC is never going to buy a Coldplay CD.

I will admit that this book does have its moments where one can get lost in some introspective rambling. It makes up for this with a solid plot that moves forward progressively while giving a steady input of flashbacks and relations.

Jack Burden is the key to this book. His last name describes something that he carries throughout the novel, and it is something that all of us feel. Jack is burdened by his feelings that he has not lived up to his potential.

His potential was the ideal he failed to stand up for. We have a burden because we are unwilling to stand up for all of our ideals at all times. In varying degrees, this causes all of us to become corrupted in some way. Whether we choose to accept this corruption by proxy, process, or personal responsibility depends on our own interpretation of occurrences.

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CAMPUS

Students gather at Dagny's for philosophical talk

By MARYANN KOPP
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Rip staff writer

On the first Friday of every school month, several Bakersfield College philosophy professors and students can be found in the back of Dagny's Coffee Company, gathered for what is known as "First Fridays."

"All of these can be accomplished at Dagny's, which is also esteemed for its counterculture image," Einhaus said.

Einhaus further elaborated, "Since we philosophers pride ourselves in our chic counterculture image, it seemed like a natural fit for us."

Along with BC professors Reggie Williams and Rodney Peterson, Einhaus feels as though these meetings are a great opportunity for BC students to get to know their professors better while possibly broadening their understanding concerning different philosophical issues.

First-time attendees and Bakersfield College students, Nafalie Lar-

son and Philip Morin, both found "First Fridays" to be beneficial in ways of creating both social connections with people of similar interests as well as develop relationships with professors.

Bakersfield College student Scott Potter, who has been attending the meetings for roughly a year, likes that there is a "free exchange of ideas more so [at Dagny's] than in most class settings."

Expanding upon this point, Professor Rene Trujillo, Jr., Ph.D., expresses, "Philosophy is a way of being in the world and of asking questions about the way we interact with others. Not the only way, perhaps not

the best way, but a way that resonates with some people."

"First Fridays" are a natural extension of this; philosophy and philosophers are what they are best in a more "natural" environment - one which is not overly artificial."

"The classroom can be made more natural, but nonetheless it presents a more restrictive environment than that of 'First Fridays,'" Trujillo said.

Initiated by Einhaus about two years ago, "First Fridays" are meant to create more opportunities to meet with people interested in philosophy.

While not an official function of BC, most present are Bakersfield College students.

Professor Einhaus wanted to provide them with the chance to meet other philosophy professors and expand upon what they have already learned in the classroom.

"While it is true that students benefit from these events, I can't claim that an increased GPA is one of the results," said Einhaus.

"Perhaps it is best to say that a student benefits most by witnessing, people engage in philosophy in a non-academic setting, and thereby can recognize its value.

"I also know that because of this exposure, students can become inspired to further work in philosophy - and anytime a student is inspired to

study, that pays off academically in all sorts of ways."

Williams also believes that the meetings "help keep students motivated when it comes to philosophy."

Another beneficial element of "First Fridays," according to Peterson, is students who may feel uncomfortable discussing issues in class can do so without feeling as nervous.

"First Fridays" take place at 10 a.m. Dagny's Coffee Company is located at 1600 20th St., on the corner of 20th and Eye St.

While specific issues may be presented for discussion by the professors, the meetings are generally open discussion.

Spring fling's charity fever

By NICK STOCKTON
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Editor in Chief

Spring fling takes on a different flavor for the 2007 spring semester. The slogan of this year's event is "Surviving College to Better Serve Humanity."

The Student Government Association's Activities Board, headed by Activities Liaison Sarah Cuellar, has set up arrangements with local and international charity organizations.

The two local charities, the Bakersfield Rescue Mission and the Center for Battered Women and Children, were selected based on their importance to the Bakersfield area.

"BC is such a protected environment, students are not open to what is going on in Bakersfield, especially the east side," says Cuellar.

Also involved is Random Acts of Kindness for Troops Cuellar explained, "Students can give a grain to a injured soldier with their donated money. The money goes back to the family or the hospital bills."

Spring Fling will also be supporting UNICEF, with drawings for various prizes, according to the Spring Fling website, www.myspace.com/collegesurvivor.

Spring Fling week is from March 26-29. Online elections for student government will take place at that time.



Activities liaison Sarah Cuellar sits in a booth in support of Random Acts of Kindness for Troops while Susan Keen donates money and writes a letter to wounded soldiers.

Agriculture jobs speech

By TAYLOR GOMBOS
tgombos@bakersfieldcollege.edu
Rip staff writer

Daniel Meyer, a soil conservationist with the United States Department of Agriculture, was on campus in the Fireside Room March 14 to present agriculture job opportunities to students who are interested in pursuing a career in the ag business.

Meyer, who has worked in the ag business for seven years, presented the six interested students in attendance with many exciting opportunities.

Meyer presented many different types of jobs but among the most notable was Earth team volunteer, which involves doing various jobs for the USDA.

Other jobs that were mentioned in a handout from Meyer include: soil conservationist, rangeland management specialist, soil scientist, and civil/agricultural engineer.

According to a pamphlet, there is a program called Student Career Experience Program that allows you to work for the USDA and get paid for the job assigned to you, while still attending school.

For more information on the many jobs in agriculture contact Human Resources specialist Tanya Robles at (530) 792-5698.

BC play in waiting will finally arrive

By MARYANN KOPP
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Rip staff writer

An all-female cast of 12 Bakersfield College students will be performing the first BC production of Eve Ensler's "The Vagina Monologues."

BC theater professor and director of the play, Kimberly Chin, says, "I've always wanted to do a production of the show and, in fact, back in 2000 I sent off for the production rights but was denied."

It was not until Chin connected with Krista Whipple, who helped in organizing the V-Day event that is to accompany the play, that she was able to run "The Vagina Monologues" as the play to coincide with Women's History Month.

An "excited" Women's History Committee approved of the production, and all involved were eager to help spread awareness and finally bring V-Day to BC as other performances at CSUB or The Empty Space have done in their respective venues.

"V-Day is a non-profit corporation that distributes funds to grassroots, national, and international organizations and programs that work to stop violence against women and girls," Chin said.

"All of the proceeds will go to the Alliance Against Family Violence and Sexual Assault. It is a local organization that truly makes a difference to many lives here in Bakersfield and in the surrounding areas."

Chin perceives this play to be "potentially empowering to both men and women" as it shares the stories of different women in a "bold and

honest" way. She encourages everyone to attend, especially men, to whom she assures the play is "not designed to bash men or make them feel guilty."

"For some reason," begins Chin, "We cannot say the word 'vagina' and not get laughter, blushing, or rude remarks. The play challenges us to take ownership of our bodies and to reclaim certain terms that have fallen to derogatory use. It is a very moving and enlightening play."

Another important element of V-Day coming to BC is that it is an opportunity for student's to "affect the lives of others in a positive way."

V-Day at BC will take place on March 28 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the BC quad. Local organizations will be present with information regarding their services, and the BC Theater Club will be holding a bake sale.

Play performances are March 29-31 and will start at 8 p.m. in the BC Indoor Theater.

To learn more about V-Day, "The Vagina Monologues" and Eve Ensler, visit www.vday.org.

Eve Ensler's 'The Vagina Monologues'

Where: Thursday, March 29 to Saturday, March 31 at 8 p.m.

Where: BC Indoor Theater

Cost: \$15 per ticket. Proceeds benefit Alliance Against Family Violence and Sexual Assault.

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Northwest explodes with convenient stores

By **MARCINDA COIL**
marcoil@yaho.com
Opinions editor

The northwest area of Bakersfield explodes not only with housing development, but with convenient commercial sites that put necessities close to home. However, if you're not from the northwest, it does not matter. Everything you need and want is still located in one area.

Northwest Promenade

8430 Rosedale Highway
The three-and-a-half block plaza has it all. If there were any rides, this place would be an amusement park.

Best Buy, Linens 'N' Things, Target, Michael's, Kohls', Foods Co, Petco, KB Games, Babies 'R' Us, all the fast foods and restaurants you can think of, and the best Walmart in Bakersfield are just a few places located in this plaza.

However, I need to give a shoutout to the World Market for its unique food, beer, wine, art, and miscellaneous items from around the world.

Rags & Riches

10014 Rosedale Highway

Women, if you want unique apparel and got the cash, then this cool place has the items you've been craving. For those who have little to spend, then their upcoming consignments may be of use.

Harbor Freight Tools

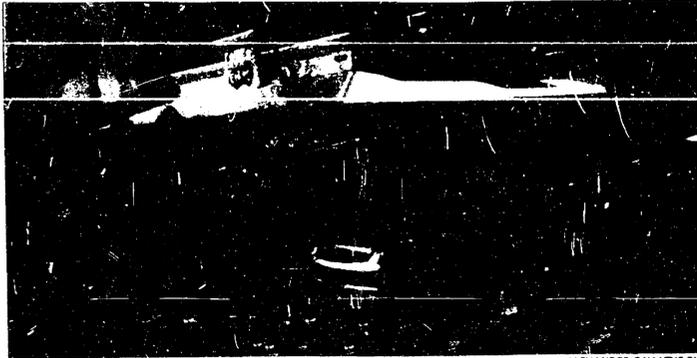
5951 Rosedale Highway

I'm not a man, but I can tell you I love this place!

Winco

4200 Coffee Road

This awesome grocery store is a one-of-a-kind here in Bakersfield. With Albertson's and Von's price



ALEXANDER GAY / THE RIP

Bikers and other people enjoy the warm atmosphere at Chuy's Mesquite Broiler located at 8660 Rosedale Highway within the Northwest Promenade.

bombs, the new Winco's low prices and variety blows the competing chains out of consumers' minds.

Country Boy Drive-In

1021 Rosedale Highway

Low on cash, but still want a tasty variety of food?

Then drive through or stop in here because this place has shrimp, zucchini, burgers, burritos, Chinese, 11 different flavors of shakes, and then some.

A little leery about the outside? Then check out the inside because this place is clean and has real high chairs for the little ones.

Carved wooden bears/furniture

Rosedale Highway and Parker Lane

If you are bombarded with mundane items and need something unique, then stop at this carpenter's paradise.

Even though it is pricey, the durability and uniqueness is well worth emptying your pockets.

John's Incredible Pizza

3709 Rosedale Highway

Got a family? Then take them out to a fun, family-oriented atmosphere.

The kiddies can entertain themselves with all the arcade games while you enjoy the rest of your peanut butter pizza. Afterward, take a trip on the virtual simulator.

Chuy's Mesquite Broiler

8660 Rosedale Highway

Not in the mood for screaming children? You should then take advantage of Chuy's good American food and full bar, also located in the Northwest Promenade. This place is excellent for throwing surprise parties for a decent price, but don't be surprised if a couple of bikers join in the fun.

Liberty Park

11225 Brimhall Road

Located in a nice area across from a school, this park sports the summer activities such as soccer games and

movies complete with a concession stand. However, bring the sunscreen because this park does not have enough trees to keep you sunburn free.

Costco

3800 Rosedale Highway

If you're into bulk, then this place is for you. It is a one-stop shop for all your huge summer parties.

Sewelzer's Pit Stop

10807 Rosedale Highway

Although hidden from highway view, this bar has an outdoor drinking area with fire pit, ideal for those smokers taking a break from the racer's haven.

Gaslight Melodrama Theatre

12748 Jomani Drive

This is another place for family fun entertainment while taking into consideration intellectual stimulation. But don't worry, food and beer is still consumable here.

Pappy's Coffee Shop

10595 Rosedale Highway

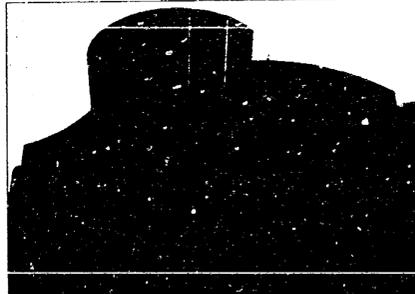
This place is more than a cafe. Not only does Pappy's have good food, but natives can enjoy that food while experiencing Bakersfield history. Even tourists can appreciate all the vintage photographs that are hung up on the walls showing Bakersfield's development.

A+ Pak-Rats

10711 Rosedale Highway

While Goodwill stores are specializing in clothes and furniture, Pak-Rats is keeping it vintage with art, antiques, and collectibles sure to please the collectors.

Right: One of the smaller bears, purchased on Rosedale Highway and Parker Lane, sits in the doorway of its new owner's home.



ALEXANDER GAY / THE RIP

People relax before and after their experience inside the mini vacation spot at John's Incredible Pizza off Rosedale Highway.

Johns receives honor

By **JOEL R. PARAMO**
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Sports editor

Bakersfield College basketball player Terance Johns earned the title of co-state player of the year. He finished the season with an average of 22.7 points per game.

"It feels very great to have received this honor," said Johns. "There wasn't a game I wasn't ready to play, a game I wasn't ready to win."

Johns scored 1,424 points and was named MVP of the Western State Conference.

"He was one of the best scorers I've ever coached in 11 years of college basketball. He is one of the toughest competitors I know," said BC coach Rich Hughes. "He was able to separate himself from other people in the state, he earned this title with his own God-given ability."

Johns helped the Renegades earn the No. 1 ranking in the state for almost all of last season.

"He's a very strong athletic guard that is capable of scoring around the perimeter as well as at the basket," said Hughes.

Johns feels as though he has helped fuel the passion that lead the men to playoffs; team members feeding off the energy he put out. They would pump each other up before their games.

"They saw that I was coming out with my game, my fighting skills," said Johns. "Everyone would adapt it to themselves, we were on a winning streak. We had to defend our No. 1 spot."

"He went into playoffs but lost 92-91 to Santa Ana, ending his season."

Currently Johns is focusing on his academics.

"He was able to separate his self from other people in the state, he earned this title with his own God-given ability."

— **Rich Hughes,**
basketball coach

"If I'm going to be successful I have to get my education and graduate," said Johns. "Don't get me wrong, I'm still practicing."

According to Hughes, they're looking at five or six Division I schools.

"They're actively trying to recruit him," said Hughes.

"We're going to visit a few of them and will be making a decision in April or May."

Eighth-inning strut lifts 'Gades

By **JEREMY TERNAZAS**
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Rip staff writer

After a loss at Whittier with Rio Hondo, BC went into its ninth conference game at Gerry Collis Field on March 13. Its opponent, College of the Canyons, was looking for their sixth straight win.

BC trailed a 3-2 lead in the bottom of the eighth inning but made a massive comeback to win 8-3.

Noe Flores tied up the game by forcing Jeff Buleson in on a fielder's choice. Tyler Garewal drew a walk and Eric Hicks' bunt loaded the bases.

After back-to-back strikeouts, the Cougars were looking for just one more out to send the Renegades back to the dugout. With the bases loaded, Brandon Boren, a freshman this year from Stockdale High, singled in two runs and Casey Brown followed with another RBI single.

Juan Martinez finished off the rally bringing in two more runs on his single, giving BC a five-run lead against the College of the Canyons.

Earlier in the game, BC's Noe Flores and Tyler Garewal hit back-to-back home runs.

Jared Hoyt, a Bakersfield High graduate and a freshman this year, made his first start against the Cou-

gars and pitched the entire game. Coach Tim Painton said that the pitching set the tone for the game, and that Hoyt has performed well out of the bullpen.

Hoyt gave up only three runs off of nine hits. Hoyt said, "I just try to throw strikes." The coach said he was "outstanding all day."

Hoyt said his curveball was on and off, but "mostly the fast ball was working good."

After Tuesday's blowout victory against the Cougars, BC had a 13-10 overall and a 5-4 record in conference division games.

The Renegades play against Citrus Valley tomorrow at home at 3 pm.

Marko is perfect in five

By **CHRIS GARZA**
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Rip staff writer

Kory Marko threw a perfect game against the Santa Monica College Corsairs on March 13* as the Renegades won 8-0 in the bottom of the fifth. The umpires required the game to be called in the fifth inning, due to an eight run mercy rule.

"It's just another game," said Marko. "It's just another win that's the only thing that's important."

Marko threw 12 strike outs and imposed her record to 16-5. She then improved her record twice more

when the Renegades beat College of the Canyons 8-2 and 5-3 in a double header that following Thursday. The two wins put team in first place in the Western State Conference. According to Coach Sandy Taylor, it marked the first win against COC in seven years as well as placing the Renegades in a position they have not held at this point in the season before.

"We've usually come back from behind but right now were in front," said coach Sakli Taylor.

The team has an overall record of 18-6 and 11-1 in conference play. They have won 11 straight conference games. The pitching was not the

fasted the women have seen during their game against Santa Monica, and that forced the girls to mold to the ways of the opposing pitcher's style of throw. "Sometimes with slower pitcher's it's harder to hit so we battled well," said catcher Katie Sawyer. "I think everyone hit the ball real well."

The Renegades started the game with back to back doubles by left fielder Heather Spoon and short-stop Nathalie Martinez. Sawyer hit a two-run homerun to left center during her first at bat and finished the game going 2-for-3 with three RBIs. Tomorrow they play away against Sylmar.

Eight Renegade players move on to the next level of play

Cody Stone, Richard Gianelli, T.J. Lee, J.R. Rogers, Isaac Quiroz, Curtis Comelston, Brian Putnam and Teddy Dellagamas have all been named to universities.

By **LEANNE CAVE**
Special to the Rip

The Bakersfield College football team has a consistent appetite for recruiting players for future seasons.

Over the last year, recruiting efforts and higher division offers secured eight Renegades are moving up to the next level.

On the offensive side of the ball, the team has named three players to universities.

On the defensive side of the ball, the team has named five players to universities.

Stone, a sophomore from North Carolina, made some notable catches in his sophomore season.

Lee, a sophomore from North Carolina, made some notable catches in his sophomore season.

Rogers, a sophomore from North Carolina, made some notable catches in his sophomore season.

Quiroz, a sophomore from North Carolina, made some notable catches in his sophomore season.

Comelston, a sophomore from North Carolina, made some notable catches in his sophomore season.

Putnam, a sophomore from North Carolina, made some notable catches in his sophomore season.

Dellagamas, a sophomore from North Carolina, made some notable catches in his sophomore season.

there has to be a supporting cast around him.

Stone had a wealth of support this season with speedy running backs and receivers.

"We had a lot of speed at the wide receiver position," Dean said. "There are three or four guys that have 4.4-4.5 marks in the 40-yard dash."

One of those guys is second-year All-American receiver T.J. Lee.

Lee, a sophomore from North Carolina, made some notable catches in his sophomore season.

Quiroz, a sophomore from North Carolina, made some notable catches in his sophomore season.

Comelston, a sophomore from North Carolina, made some notable catches in his sophomore season.

Putnam, a sophomore from North Carolina, made some notable catches in his sophomore season.

Dellagamas, a sophomore from North Carolina, made some notable catches in his sophomore season.

Comelston will be playing for the Colorado State University Rams in 2007.

Putnam, defensive back for BC, earned All-WSC honors.

Putnam was named to the All-American III team by the California University College Football Coaches Association and BC Athletic Director.

Putnam will be playing for Minnesota State.

Teddy Dellagamas, kicker for the Cougars, has decided to play for Rutgers University, as he is one of the highest-rated prospects in the country.



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BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE'S RELAYS

BC hosts athletes in track event

By CHRIS GARZA

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Rip staff writer

The Bakersfield College men's 400 relay team overcame a slightly diseased handoff from the third leg to the anchor on Saturday at the BC relays and received first place.

Third-leg runner C.J. Jones' hand-off to anchor Attrail Snipes had Jones anxious for a no-second, but Jones knew that Snipes would make up for the mistake. "It was a bit shaky," said Jones, "but I knew we would pull it off, so when Attrail pulled it off I wasn't surprised."

Snipes held a picture in his head of losing the same race the week before and did not want to display a redundant episode of loss.

"Last week we ran at COC (College of Canyons), and we lost that relay," said Snipes. "I did the long jump for the first time and hurt my back so I did not run as well. But we said we wouldn't lose this week, especially at home."

The team of Ty Lee, Brandon Bowen, Jones and Snipes ran the race in that order and finished it with a time of 42.52 seconds.

"I was chasing her the whole time, that was the only girl I saw. I came out of the block slow"

— Annakia Jackson,
BC women's team member

Snipes also finished first in the 200-meter dash with a time of 22.95 seconds and placed second in the 100-meter dash with a time of 10.93 seconds. According to men's coach Dave Frickle, Snipes was the state champion in Washington in the 100, 200 and 400.

"He has had a good day, and he's done real well in his events," said Frickle.

Lee also placed first in the long jump with a distance of 22 feet and 6.5 inches as did Kameesha Bowers for the women with a length of 17 feet and 3 inches. Bowen also placed first in the triple jump with 38 feet and 2.5 inches.

Annakia Jackson placed first in the women's high jump with a height of four feet and five inches. According



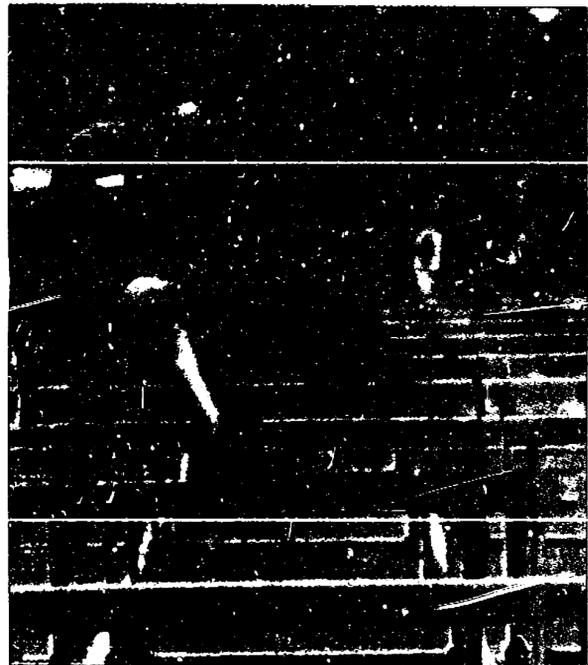
ERIK AGUILAR / THE RIP

Melissa Noonchester set a stadium record of 10 feet, 7 inches in the pole vaulting event at the Bakersfield College Relays Feb. 17. Above: Hands fly away at the starting line in the men's 100-meter race.

to Frickle, this is Jackson's first year running track and she, along with teammate Tinesha Mitchell, will be competing in the heptathlon this coming week at Cerritos. The heptathlon consists of seven events and they are the 100 meter hurdles, the 200 meter, the 800 meter, the long jump, the high jump, the shotput and the javelin. Jackson ran the 100-meter

hurdles on Saturday and placed second with a time of 15.88 seconds. "I was chasing her the whole time," said Jackson, "that was the only girl I saw. I came out of the blocks slow." Jackson was speaking of Shakina Phillips of Los Angeles Southwest, who ran a time of 15.78 seconds. Both women did better in the finals opposed to their trial times.

Breaking a pole vault meet record with her jump of 10 feet 7 inches was Melissa Noonchester of Bakersfield College. She attempted to jump 11 feet 1 inch but tapped the bar off three times. The old record was an inch lower than her new record. Bakersfield College will host the Western State Conference Championships at the end of April.



ERIK AGUILAR / THE RIP

Bakersfield College's Annakia Jackson finishes second at the women's 100-meter hurdles Feb. 17.

Doubles team hitting hard

By KATHERINE J. WHITE

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Campus editor

Opponents of the Bakersfield College's men's tennis team have faced a double threat this season from doubles Matthew Greer and Marc Johns, according to Rob Slaybaugh, BC men's tennis coach.

Greer and Johns are currently in the top 15 for the state's doubles. However, according to Greer, they have not been officially ranked yet.

Slaybaugh says the two players are both "skilled volleyers." Slaybaugh says Greer works the net aggressively. Both, he says, consistently place well as servers. However, Greer admits that he wants to sharpen his backhand. Nevertheless, in the match with L.A. Pierce, March 15, Greer won both singles and doubles.

Pierce was a formidable opponent, Greer said. "Pierce kept the ball in play, but I had the momentum and forced the points," Greer said.

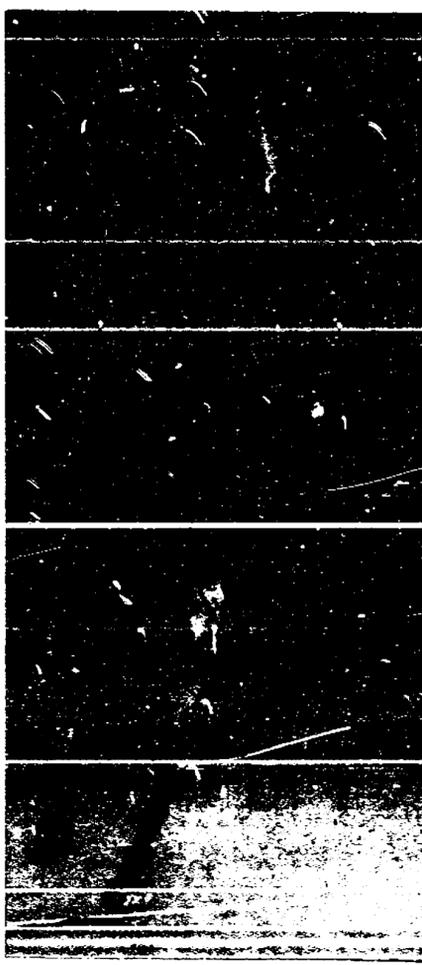
"I put away more shots than they did." Greer credits Johns for their undefeated doubles season. In their last tournament together in Modesto, Feb. 15, the pair beat last year's number four in the state.

Unfortunately, Johns will be missing an unspecified number of matches due to a viral infection, according to Slaybaugh and Greer.

According to Greer, Johns is a shrewd player who can "play off" their rivals' strengths and weaknesses in serving and volleying. Greer said that Johns' forehand is his greatest talent. Greer said their fiercest matches have been with Glendale and Santa Monica. Ventura was also very tough on the team, according to Greer.

"Ventura is at the top of the league; they're all around good players," Greer said.

The team lost to Ventura 3-6 March 8, but won against Allan Hancock 7-2 on March 13. Their overall record is 7-1 with a WSC record of 3-1.



ERIK AGUILAR / THE RIP

Bakersfield College tennis player Matt Greer practices at the tennis court on campus March 19.

High competitor a work in progress

By TAYLOR GOMBOS

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Rip staff writer

Jacqueline Lebeck is a sophomore tennis player for the women's tennis team. Lebeck, who is at BC as a nursing major, was born in Cortez, Colorado in 1987. Lebeck attended Highland High School where she played on the tennis team for one season. This season marks her first and only year of playing tennis in college. "I just want to win. I do it for the team, I put my game face on for the team," Lebeck said.

Coach Gene Lundquist says that Lebeck's game is a work in progress. "She hasn't been playing that long but she is a tremendous competitor and a real fine athlete she's quick, even time she hits the ball she is going to improve." All she needs is more experience; her finest attribute is her competitiveness. She simply refuses to lose, Lundquist said.

Lebeck had a few goals coming into the season. "I just wanted to have fun just, go out and play tennis. I love playing tennis it's a fun sport, my goals are just to have fun if I win that's great, I'm not looking to win every match," Lebeck said.

Lebeck's best match of the season in her opinion was her first singles match against College Of Sequoias a college from Visalia. "It was a really close match because we both have

"I just want to win. I do it for the team."

— Jacqueline Lebeck,
Women's tennis player

the same style."

Lundquist added, "One thing she does so well is she keeps the ball in play she moves the ball around makes the opponent move and stays in the point." Gradually she's going to learn more about tactics and more about spin so she can put more top-spin on the ball and hit it harder."

Lundquist mentioned that Lebeck has an advantage. Left-handed players have an advantage over right-handers because right-handers aren't used to the spins. When asked what player he would compare Lebeck to he replied, "I would compare her to a cerebral player like Martina Hingis who's not a big hitter but plays smart, that's what Jackie does she plays smart."

Lebeck admitted that she doesn't watch very much tennis, but named Andy Roddick as her favorite player. Lebeck's assistant coach says that her racket grip is like Roddick. Earlier in the season Lebeck was undefeated in her singles matches she said that it was weird because she has never been very good at tennis but added that it boosted her confidence.

Sports Stats

March 14

Baseball

BC 8, Canyons 3.

Bakersfield 000 200 06x-8 10 1
Canyons.....020 001 000-3 9 2

C-McCarney, Mirands (7), Kuznetsov (R) and Perez (B-H) and Divison W-hoyd L-Miranda 2B-BC, Davison, Burleson, Brown, HRs-Canyons, Hay, BC, Flores, Garewal. Records-Canyons 10-11, (5-2 WSC), BC 13-10 (5-4 WSC).

Softball

BC 8, Santa Monica 0.

Bakersfield.....331 01-8 14 0
Santa Monica.....000 00-0 0 2

Gonzalez and Redick, Marko and Sawyer 2B-BC, Sporn 2, Martinez, Rojas, Flores, HR-BC, Sawyer. Records-BC 16-6 (11-1 WSC)

Mens Tennis

BC 7, Allan Hancock 2.

Singles- Johns, B, d. Sobotta 6-2, 6-2; Greer, B, d. Carter 6-2, 6-1; Huist, AH, d. Hagan, 6-3, 6-3, 3-0 (retired); Desm, B, d. Sella, 6-0, 6-0; Cerni, B, d. Lara, 6-0, 6-4; Magana, B, d. Hanson, 7-6 (7-3), 6-2

Doubles-Johns-Greer, B, d. Solorio-Garcia, B-1; Cerni-Desme, B, d. Holst-Lara B-4; Hanson-Sobotta, AH, d. Magana-Williams, 6-4, 6-4. Records-BC 6-1, 2-1; Hancock 0-6, 0-5.

Womens Tennis

Singles-Johns B, d. Cowan, 6-3, 6-7 (7-4), 6-3; Becerra, AH, d. Kelly 6-4, 7-6 (7-3); McClain, AH, d. Perkins, 6-1, 6-1; Lebeck, B, d. Yip, 6-1, 7-5; Monroe, B, d. Soc, 6-0, 6-1; Kresha, B, d. Santiago, 6-4, 5-7, 6-4.

Doubles-Kelly-Cowan, B, d. Harrel-Yip, 8-3; Becerra-McClain, AH, d. Monroe-Perkins, 8-2; Lebeck-Owens, B, d. Sbar-Santiago, 6-2. Records-BC 2-3, 2-2.

March 16

Baseball

BC 4, Canyons 3.

Bakersfield 200 100 000-3 9 2
Canyons.....000 000 000-3 9 2

Miller and Lawson, Clark, no (R), 3rd Base 6-2, 6-2. Records-BC 10-11, (5-2 WSC), BC 13-10 (5-4 WSC).

BC 8, Canyons 3.

Bakersfield 000 200 06x-8 10 1
Canyons.....020 001 000-3 9 2

Marko, Sawyer, Sporn 2, Martinez, Rojas, Flores, HR-BC, Sawyer. Records-BC 16-6 (11-1 WSC), Canyons 10-11, (5-2 WSC).

BC 5, Canyons 3.

Bakersfield 000 200 06x-8 10 1
Canyons.....020 001 000-3 9 2

Marko, Sawyer, Sporn 2, Martinez, Rojas, Flores, HR-BC, Sawyer. Records-BC 16-6 (11-1 WSC), Canyons 10-11, (5-2 WSC).

Mens Tennis

BC 7, LA Pierce 2.

Singles- Greer, B, d. Ghareebian 6-3, 6-0; Munster, SM, d. Army Cowan, 6-1, 6-4; Jilabala-Hudakova, SM, d. Kelly, 6-3, 6-7, 6-4; Sokina, SM, d. Lebeck, 7-6, 6-3; Swift, SM, d. Perkins, 6-0, 7-3; Morales, SM, d. Moreal, 6-1, 6-2.

Doubles- Mitchell-Kelly, BC, d. Hashimoto-Sokina, 8-4; Morales-Munster, SM, d. Cowan-Perkins, 9-8; Lebeck-Owens, BC, d. Davison-Zadpanah, 8-6. Records-BC (2-5, 2-3, WSC).

March 18

Baseball

BC 7, LA Valley 19.

Bakersfield 000 010 010x-3 12 1
L.A. Valley 050 000 28x-15 15 1

Albert, Swen (7), Villanueva (B) and Davison, Riley (7). Gonzalez, Jacobson, Kahan (9) and Sabourin, W-Gonzalez, L-Albert, 2B-BC, Garewal, LAV, Cassidy, Dorrano, HR-LAV, Hollywood. Records-BC 14-11, (6-3 WSC), L.A. Valley 5-4 WSC.