

Armed-security issue revisited at BC

By KYLE BEALL

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Rip staff writer

Arming Bakersfield College Public Safety officers with guns has been debated in the past, but the Virginia Tech shootings have re-instigated the issue on campus.

In prior proposals submitted in 2004 and 2005 to the BC vice president by Mark Graf, director of BC Public Safety, it would cost, approximately, an extra \$10 a month per an officer in order to arm the officers with 9mm pistols, to be carried on campus at all times.

The proposals submitted by Graf were denied. According to Graf,

the response he received was that it was an issue that would be better addressed at a later time.

In an e-mail on the faculty listserve, BC history professor Randal Beeman has raised his own concerns about the issue.

Although he declined comment to the Rip, he indicated he favors arming trained personnel and wants to know how other faculty members feel about the situation.

In 2004 and 2005, Graf submitted his own proposals to the vice president of BC and both were denied.

"It's not a matter of if it happens, it's a matter of when," said Graf.

Within the last 11 years, several serious assaults, two murders and

two domestic kidnappings have taken place "within the confines of our area of responsibility," said Graf.

At this time, the only recourse that BC Public Safety officers have, if someone were to use a firearm on campus, would be to call the Bakersfield Police Department.

"If they are not armed and the other person is, they can't intervene. They can't protect themselves and they can't protect other people who are being victimized," said Graf. "It's been my experience, while something like that is taking place, seconds seem like hours."

According to BC President William Andrews, there are strong arguments on both sides of the issue. "My

experience has been that a college environment is a safer place without armed officers," said Andrews.

Andrews has administrated at institutions with both armed and unarmed officers.

Graf is not alone in his opinion that BC public safety officers should be armed with guns.

"I think we'd be criminally naive to think that it wouldn't happen here," said BC Dean of Students Don Turney.

In the past, Turney has supported Graf's proposals for arming the public safety officers. "Our security officers and students have a right to come home every day," said Turney.

Outgoing legislative liaison Alan

Crane stated his opinion, "If something crazy was to happen here on campus, they need to have the ability to take care of business."

Graf said, "There is no legal reason why we are not armed."

The California Bureau of Security and Investigative Services requires that security officers take eight hours of class time and six hours on the firing range in order to secure a license to carry a firearm.

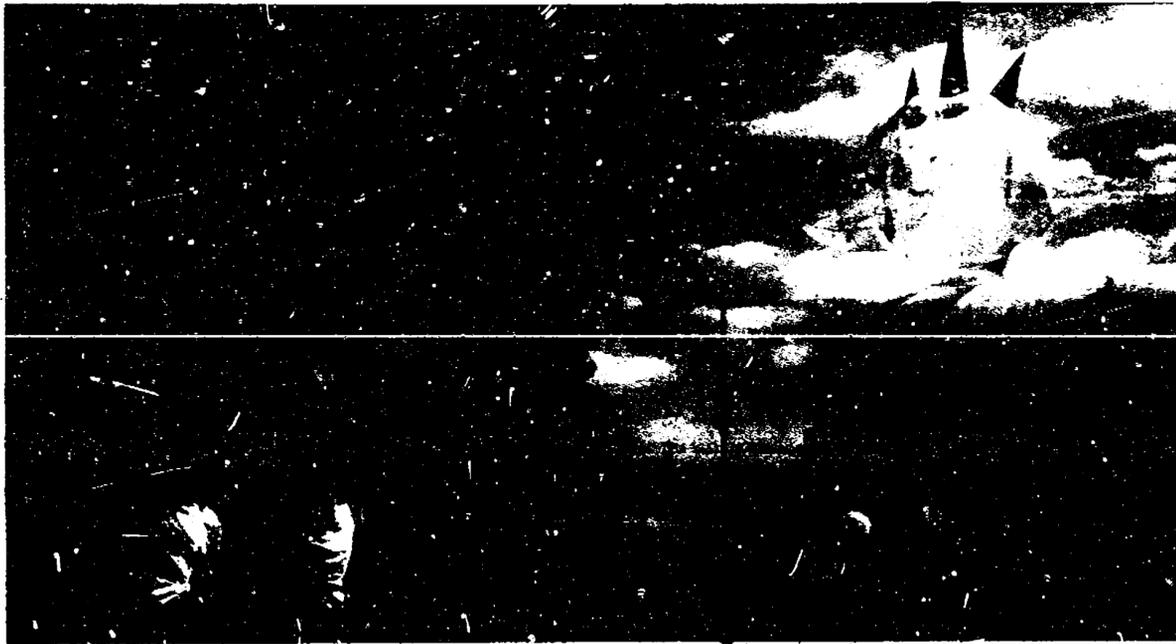
In Graf's proposal, he would be requiring that all public safety officers complete the California Bureau of Security and Investigative Services training, and in addition take 40 hours of arrest and control training for Peace Officers Standards and

Training, and 24 hours of firearms training for POST in order to get certified and qualified to carry a firearm on the BC campus. Each officer would then be reviewed every three months to demonstrate firearm safety and ability.

"I will not have anyone working here that is going to put the students, staff and faculty here at risk," said Graf. "We have a vested interest here because we are part of the Bakersfield College family."

According to Graf, if it was permitted for BC public safety officers to carry firearms, they could be armed within six months.

"All I'd have to do is order the guns," said Graf.



A group of children from the Bakersfield College childcare center gather in front of the art building to see "Buck" the duck get inflated by a group of art students April 26.

ERIK AGUIAR / THE RIP

Sculpture class displays final projects on the grass

By MARYANN KOPP

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Rip staff writer

Several Bakersfield College art students displayed their own inflatable sculptures on campus in front of the Fine Arts Building April 26.

Art professor Rebecca Edwards assigned this project, allowing her students to only use plastic and duct tape with the minimum height of each sculpture being as tall as their classroom ceiling.

While the preschoolers from the Sand Dollar

Room and the Starfish Room of BC's child care center watched, several of the art students worked to keep their sculptures inflated with bits of duct tape and ingenuity while others took pictures.

There were five sculptures altogether, each unique from the others, despite having been made from the same materials.

There was a giant replica of a rubber ducky, which stood at about 18 1/2 feet tall and was 15 feet from bill to tail. In lieu of traditional, fluffy feathers on top of the head, there were several black spikes, creating a duck mohawk. The eyes

were large X's, made from red duct tape.

While BC student Henry Garcia had come up with the actual idea, he had two other students, Lindsay Martin and Eddie Rodriguez, in his group to help actually create the ducky, which took about three weeks to construct.

Rodriguez blamed the untimely deflating of the ducky on the "poor structure."

To the right of the giant duck was a 16-foot tall light bulb, a "60 million watt light bulb," according to student and light bulb co-creator Charlie

See SCULPTURES, Page 4

Delano campus under expansion

By EARL PARSONS

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Representatives from the Kern Community College District, including Bakersfield College president William Andrews, met at the Science and Technology building at BC's Delano campus on May 3 to discuss plans to expand the campus.

According to Delano campus director John Jaramillo, the Delano campus has approximately 570 Full-Time Equivalent Students (FTES), or the amount of students added up to make one full-time student, a statistic that the state of California uses to determine necessary funding for community colleges.

That number is up 50% since the commencement of the Science and Technology Center in November of 2005, according to Jaramillo. Next year, it's estimated that there will be more classes at the Delano center than at Porterville College.

If Delano's FTES continues growing at a rate of 25% per year, its FTES is estimated to be at 2,500, or 4,286 students taking an average of eight units per semester, by 2013, which is the time the initial buildings for the Delano center are estimated to be built, according to Chris Addington, executive director of facility planning for the KCCD.

For now, temporary relocatable buildings will be necessary to replace

the Randolph Center, an antiquated building that will be demolished by 2008.

Many people feel that the Randolph Center is inadequate to maintain the expansion that the Delano campus requires to meet the growing needs of the community. Thus, the Randolph Center will be torn down and all the expansion of the Delano campus will take place on the 50 acres of property acquired by the KCCD on Timmons Avenue.

Some relocatable buildings necessary would include six classrooms at 40 students per class, eight faculty facilities, a maintenance and operation facility, a security facility, a conference room, student health center, a bookstore, and an eating and vending area, which could possibly be contracted by a private enterprise. The first set of temporary buildings will be available by 2008, while the second set of temporary buildings are planned for 2009.

Addington wanted to emphasize that the estimates for growth on the Delano campus, as well as the plans for facilities to expand the campus, are still tentative in nature. "Your results are only as good as the data coming in. This is not set in stone."

Some facilities will be supplied by a collaboration the KCCD has established with the newly built Robert F. Kennedy High School adjacent to the Delano center. Through a unique

See DELANO, Page 4

Top SGA officers are feeling un-PHIT about usage of funds

By JOEL R. PARAMO

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Sports editor

The Bakersfield College Student Government is battling with the administration to prove that student health fee funds have been misused.

In January the old fitness center became the PHIT facility after Vice President of Student Services Mildred Lovato and outside sponsor Sunkist provided students with a newly remodeled easy way to exercise and a trainer to help those that needed some extra attention. It was justified as a means for preventive health.

Though, according to SGA President Micah Card, approximately \$83,000 was taken from the Health Center Funds that provided only half the cost of what it took to open the center.

"They're trying to give us preventative health care, when we already have aches and pains," said Card. "That money they took from the Health Center fee was to provide for a psychologist here on campus and to provide the Delano campus with

a health center that they still don't have."

But BC President William Andrews and Lovato still feel as they did to begin with that no laws were violated.

"The center was done specifically for students," said Andrews. "It's an appropriate use for the fee."

Though action has been taken by Andrews to relieve the students of the Delano Campus that have not benefited from paying the health fee and will be sending out a letter offering to give back the money that was paid by students of Delano upon enrolling.

According to Card the SGA would like to see the things that were "promised" by Andrews to actually happen even if the deadline he first set, March 2007, wasn't met.

One of those requests include "Meaningful consultation between administration, SGA, Dean of Students, and Dr. Farber in the matter of said expanded services and all future endeavors," that request is also actively being addressed by Andrews.

"It's very important to have student input," he said. "They should

have input on a lot of the things that happen on campus."

Lovato also understands the importance of this connection between administrators and students.

"District personal and Dr. Andrews have been working hard to strengthen the relationship with SGA," said Lovato, "because they are a vital part of the college family."

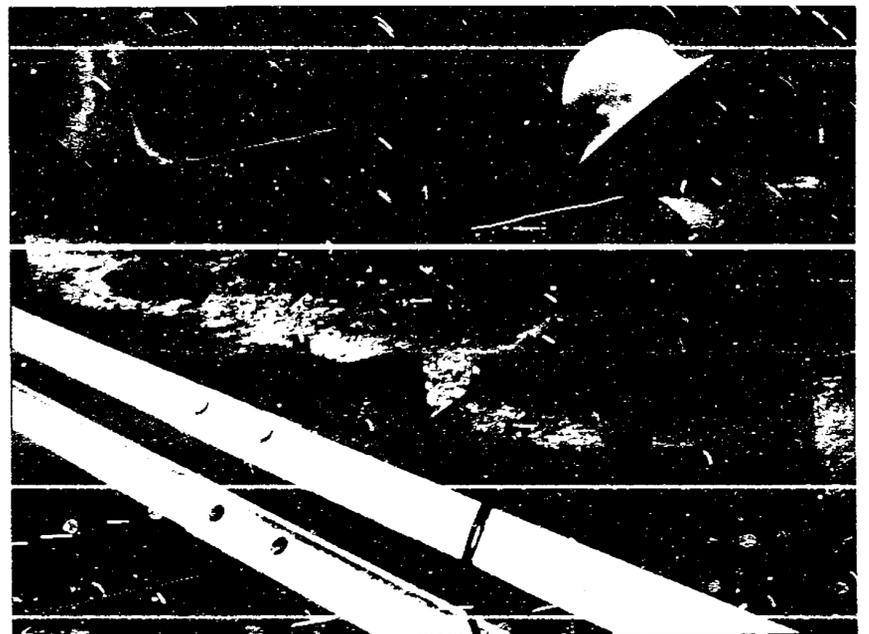
She is also actively trying to provide for there to be a mental health physician on campus as soon as possible. The only problem is liability and specific issues that need to be addressed before that happens.

"We're looking at various models to provide mental health services," said Lovato. "It's a growing need at college campuses."

It's more evident now than ever that students be provided a mental health physician after Virginia Tech.

"At this time I personally feel that now is the time to let students know, especially after Virginia Tech, students need a mental health physician," said Card. "It's been an eminent problem of providing this for students. We need what we asked for."

City builds bluff protection



NICK STOCKTON / THE RIP

D.C. Hubbs Construction employee Tirzo Tinadog places the final rivets in a new guard rail along Panorama Drive near Bakersfield College. Construction on the 7,125-foot-long rail began April 23 and ended April 30.

NEWS



Vets hold fundraiser for memorial



By ANNA ROBLEDO
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Shots could be heard and large clouds of smoke could be seen from the parking lot at the Kern County Museum on April 29. However, there was nothing to fear. It was merely a reenactment of a Civil War battle put on by the Kern Veterans Memorial Foundation.

The event was "A History of Heroes," and it was to honor all of the Kern County veterans who have served or are currently serving in the military.

According to Karen Norton, the event coordinator, the funds received at this event were to help build a memorial dedicated to all of the soldiers that have fought from Kern County. The memorial will be located at Truxtun Avenue and S Street.

Those who attended the event were able to enjoy reenactments, historical speakers, living historical displays, food, dancing, and vendor booths.

Some of the reenactments included a Civil War battle, Indian Wars with Buffalo Soldiers, and Spanish American War demonstrations.

The living historical displays included the U.S. Sanitary Commission, which was a group of women that supported the Union soldiers by making and collecting items to send to the soldiers.

Another display was from Oak Street, a civilian town in the 1860s that was partially destroyed in an accidental fire that is said to have started in a drunken brawl.

The display included tents, a large dining table where food was served to "the residents of the Inn," and a cooking area.

According to Jennifer Rosburgh, a member of the Historical Citizens Association, which displayed Oak Street, "Because of the fire, the hotel had to put up tents for the guests to stay in, which included many of the townsfolk who lost their homes."

The event took place on April 28 and 29 and was \$10 for general admission per day.



Above: Richard Harrison bathes in one of the historical living displays. Below: A volunteer pretends to be dead while fighting in a reenactment of a Civil War battle.



PHOTOS BY ERIK AGUILAR / THE RIP
Top: Howitzers reenact a Civil War scenario. Above: WWII veteran Paul Lara dances with Samantha Free. Right: Volunteers reenact a Civil War fight in the streets of the Kern County Museum.

Castle Print & Publication

The secret is out!

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CAMPUS

Down the cathode ray

BC theater students demonstrate the absurdity of consumerism in the Dennis Snee play "Alice in Americaland."



Ayden Holloway, 8, played the mushroom as well as the small eyeball.



PHOTOS BY ANNA ROBLEDO / THE RIP

By KATHERINE J. WHITE
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Campus editor

In Bakersfield College's production of Dennis Snee's play "Alice in Americaland," a satirical, updated version of the Lewis Carroll classic, "Alice in Wonderland," Alice sings Mick Jagger's "Can't Get No Satisfaction," is accused of being a shop-lifter, encounters a rabbit who fears a nuclear holocaust, and engages in dialogue with the Cheshire Cat who plays an obnoxious reporter.

Cast members say "Alice in Americaland" is a wild romp through the vortex of the cathode ray and a condemnation of the lies foisted and perpetuated by a corporate-backed media, rampant consumerism, and narcissism as well as the fatuous jingoism found in American culture.

The play is finally punctuated by an anti-xenophobic ending.

BC professor Kimberly Chin directs the play.

"This play is about the absurdity of American culture," said cast member Todd Beckey, 25, and a BC biology major.

Claire Moles, who plays Alice, and Ty Gima, who plays The Gentleman in White Paper, discuss the intrusiveness of the American media in the Dennis Snee play "Alice in Americaland."

Beckey plays the "mouthpiece of corporate America," or more specifically, he plays a tuxedoed man with a huge lipstick-covered pair of lips where the head should be.

Before meeting the bizarre array of characters, Alice (Claire Moles) enters the transmogrified world of Americaland through a T.V. screen monitor instead of tumbling through a looking glass.

While searching for her way back, she runs into a hookah-smoking, "om"-chanting caterpillar (Miguel Torres) intermittently inserting insights between absurdities, a horny, consumer-advocate Mock Turtle (Trushya Cole), a red-necked Tweedle Dum (Sara Tielsch) and Tweedle Dee (Kristan Lanza), and a career-oriented Duchess with a type "A" personality and a heart condition (Stephanie Hankinson) among others.

Some cast members feel that the character Alice, as shown in the Snee play, is somewhat chastised for her suburban housewife's complacent consumerism.

Her complacency is typical of most Americans, especially in relation to the media and consumerism.

Beckey plays the "mouthpiece of corporate America," or more specifically, he plays a tuxedoed man with a huge lipstick-covered pair of lips where the head should be.

Cast members feel that the play warns people about living and functioning as mere consumers and not as human beings.

Many cast members consider the production a diatribe against the mindless pleasure Americans take in the media, and some express a severe distaste for the media obsession of others.

"I don't give a shit about pictures of Paris Hilton flashing her vagina," said cast member Bryce Skidmore (Duke), 21, and a UC Berkeley-bound BC student in liberal studies.

"You have no idea how tired I am



Todd Beckey played the announcer aka the Big Red Lips.

Hip-hop class gets jumping at BC

By CRYSTAL ROBERTS
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A history of hip-hop class is in the making at Bakersfield College.

Professor of African-American history, Ismael Kimbrough, plans on heading the new class with a fellow BC professor.

"I have talked with another professor on campus," he said. "We both have a key interest in preserving the history of hip-hop."

Kimbrough explained that the class would track the evolution of the music and the effect it has had on popular culture.

"I'm a product of hip-hop," said Kimbrough. "It's something I grew up with." Kimbrough explained that hip-hop has changed, and also explained that pop/rap, hip-hop music is highly influential in informing young people of their values.

The class will also discuss the influence of hip-hop worldwide.

"Germany, France, and South America have truly embraced the real value of hip-hop, while here in America, we have lost it. Hip-hop music has become pop and formulaic, there is no essence in it," explained Kimbrough.

There are many who have not been exposed to black culture, they might think that pop-rap is an expression of black culture, when really, it's only a formula that some executive somewhere tells them to follow to make money. Popular radio rap and hip-hop music that people listen to on BET or MTV, is not a true expression of hip-hop; it's merely a sub-genre.

Hip-hop is about constant change; instead, it now has been muddled down to one general standard of dress, ethic, and morality.

"The hip-hop culture has become stagnant, now it's all about duplication and everyone talks about the same thing," said Kimbrough.

Kimbrough also explained that if people take this class, they would understand the true art form of hip-hop instead of the watered down version.

Kimbrough believes that students will take this class.

"It hasn't been finalized yet, but it is definitely something I plan to do. It is an idea that has to be sold to others that may doubt the validity of the class."

Hip-hop is an all American art form, much like jazz that needs to be explained thoroughly.

Clergymen discuss church and state

By LILIANA FAHEL
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Rip staff writer

The Kern County Chapter of Americans United, along with Freedom First, assembled an interfaith panel discussion on the separation of church and state on May 6 at Bakersfield College in an effort to understand the various religious standpoints in the community.

One speaker represented Christianity, Islam, Judaism, and Hinduism and each addressed the issue of separation of church and state as well as two other issues, which each speaker believed to be "hot button issues of today."

Rev. Dianne Ryder, from a Christian point of view, expressed her desire to keep church separate from

state by discussing the "on-going experiment called democracy" and believes "the state shouldn't be concerned with my faith."

One of Rev. Ryder's two selected "hot button issues" was same-sex marriages or unions, explaining she was uncomfortable with deciding if a loving union between two people of the same sex is right or wrong. However, she has no problem offering blessings upon it should it prove to be genuinely out of a "covenantal love." Rev. Ryder believes the state can do its part by settling financial and legal matters when it comes to marital issues.

Imam Salim Morgan believed the contrary, as he represented Islam and thoroughly believes that "Islam is the state." Imam Morgan, a Muslim convert, studied Islam in Saudi Ara-

bia and is convinced that "religion to Muslims is everything in life," so therefore is against the separation of church and state.

While Imam Morgan is a supporter of a union between church and state, he did address the issue of polygamy and declared his strict belief that "marriage is a religious phenomenon of which the state should not be concerned with."

Representing the Jewish faith, Rabbi Cheryl Rosenstein declared that all should be "steadfast guardians of separation of church and state." Rabbi Rosenstein explained the long history of abuse when religion and state are intertwined and chose to address taxpayer support for religious schools and social welfare issues.

"We should be willing to tax our-

selves to come to the aide of those less able," stated Rosenstein. All in all, the Rabbi believes government and religion will be purer the less they are mixed with each other.

Pandit Ashok Bhan, who grew up in a Hindu temple from early childhood, dissected the issue of church/state separation by explaining "the state to me means authority... and the word 'separation' means that a particular practice should not be imposed."

The Hindu faith practices that each individual is divine and teaches that one should work selflessly for the better of the majority. Bhan insisted that church should not be associated with state by any means as "religion is practiced to make oneself better. Religion to us is a personal thing, your own way of communicating

with your maker."

Bakersfield resident Mike Miller was impressed by the idea of a panel discussion on such an issue and feels "a lot of things can come out of it."

Miller pointed out Imam Morgan's contradictory response to a question about how Saudi Arabia strictly prohibits the possession of Bibles after he claimed that Islam demonstrates tolerance for other religions wherever Mecca and Medina are located. Miller addressed this contradiction by stating, "The Muslim speaker speaks about tolerance, but they don't even practice it in their most holy place."

Devoted to the issue of separation of church and state, Americans United "works to preserve religious liberty and freedom of conscience as guaranteed by our Constitution."

New class to discuss life on other planets

By MARCINDA COIL
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Opinions editor

A new class is to land on the BC campus this fall: Life in the Universe.

According to Nick Strobel, future teacher of the new astronomy class, "The course is about the scientific search for life beyond the Earth."

The prerequisites are reading levels five or six, and the textbook to be used is Jeffrey Bennett and Seth Shostak's "Life in the Universe."

Shostak, according to Strobel, is currently at the SETI Institute along with Jill Tarter, whose character was portrayed by Jodie Foster in the movie "Contact."

"The new class is expected to cover theories, facts, and analysis of life on Earth and outer space.

"We would be looking at how life could possibly start here on Earth," said Strobel. "It's one place that we know there is life."

According to Strobel, the Cambrian Explosion or dinosaur era is one that scientists study because of all the different types of species that existed, such as trilobites, birds, insects, mammals, and amphibians. The thing they all have in common is their DNA, which is a required root to all life forms on Earth; however, it may not be a necessity in outer

space.

"There are probably other types of chemistry possible, which in this case you would have really, really different forms of life," said Strobel. "A lot more different than what you see in science fiction films."

Apparently aliens in films stem from the animals that exist on Earth and the costumes that fit humans. "Of course, they all speak English," said Strobel.

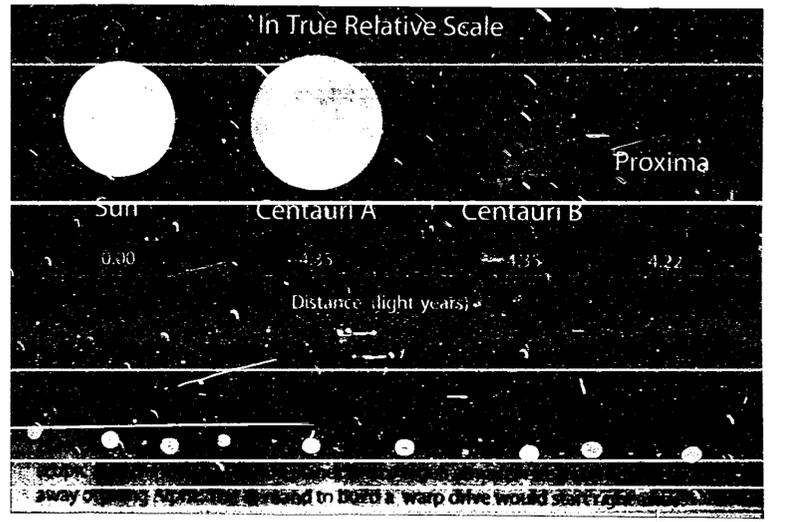
Another question to be addressed in the class, said Strobel, is "how likely is life in our solar system and beyond, where should we look for intelligent life beyond the Earth, and how would we detect it?"

Scientists look for methane, molecular oxygen, water, carbon, and ammonia, said Strobel. "See what the ratios are of these different types of chemicals."

According to Strobel, most planets have these elements, but they're not divided into the right measurements to create life. Water is found everywhere, but it is usually either in a gas form or in a solid form like ice. Carbon is also found floating around space in special types of clouds.

However, the new planet that was found could contain the right proportions of these elements to allow for photosynthesis.

"Finally, they discovered a planet that could have the right temperatures you'll need for liquid water," said Strobel. "It's only a



matter of time till they find a lot more like that planet."

According to Strobel, the planet's distance from its nearest star could possibly sustain life; however, scientists do not know enough about all the other chemicals that could be breeding on the planet.

"We have to take a closer look at it to see if there is any other types of chemicals you need for biochemistry to happen," said Strobel. "Though life has yet to be discovered in outer space, Strobel believes that life is out there."

"The raw ingredients are there," said Strobel, "and given the possibility of hundreds of millions of planets... I think there's a chance."

ERICK MAIN / THE RIP

NEWS

DELANO: Campus seeks funding to expand

Continued from Page 1
joint-use system, Delano center students will share the vocational and industrial technology classrooms, lecture center and gymnasium with the high school students as soon as the high school opens in 2008.

Before the permanent buildings are planned to be built in 2013, a Learning Resource Center is planned for 2011 pending the passage of a bond measure on the 2008 November ballot. This building will house a library with a reference section and general collection of books, a computer commons, and a space for supportive services.

Addington, along with Jaramillo, Vice President of Student Learning Ed Knudson and representatives from different departments at BC discussed the logistical concerns of expanding the Delano campus and talked about what they think can be done to better represent their respective departments, as well as temporary buildings necessary to replace the Randolph center.

A later meeting involved BC president William Andrews and Jaramillo talking with a group of Child Development students about the plans to expand the campus, and students offered suggestions on what could be done to make the campus better.

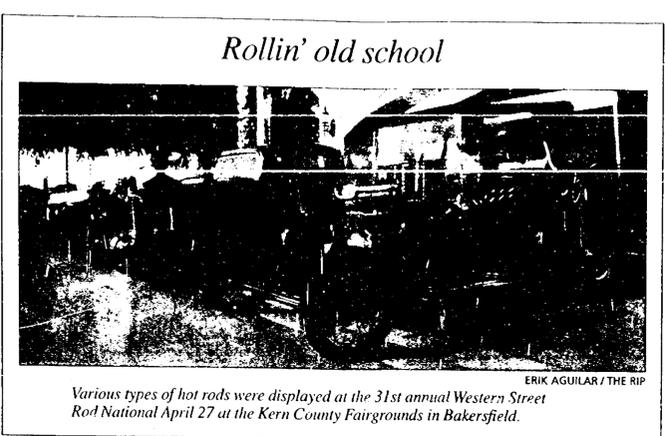
According to Andrews, only 15% of people in Bakersfield have any college education, which is "the biggest problem Bakersfield has," said Andrews to the Child Development class. He explained that Delano could avoid this problem by increasing college rates, as it still hasn't grown to its full potential yet.

Ideas some of the students had included having more classes on Saturdays for people who have to work and bilingual classes to ease the transition for those learning English as a second language.

Andrews and Jaramillo explained that the difficult part of expanding the Delano campus will be making the necessary facilities without overbuilding. According to Andrews and Jaramillo, a classroom needs to be used 53 hours per week to be fully funded. "If you overbuild, you can't get classrooms full," said Andrews.

Andrews also mentioned that he has talked with John Lopez, BC Student Government Association president-elect, about charging Delano students a Student Center fee to create a student center similar to the Collins Campus Center at BC. "The student center fee would be important," said Jaramillo, to motivate students to have a greater sense of community among students on campus.

Jaramillo believes the success of the Delano campus is dependent on dedicated people working for the benefit of the students. "The key thing will be identifying quality faculty," Jaramillo said.



Various types of hot rods were displayed at the 31st annual Western Street Rod National April 27 at the Kern County Fairgrounds in Bakersfield.

SCULPTURES: Large original displays draw attention

Continued from Page 1

Werner. Much like a real light bulb, the wattage was indicated at the top of the sculpture, circled by a small joke that read: How many sculptors does it take to screw in a light bulb?

Alongside fellow students identified only as Rob, Stacey, and Emily, Werner said it took about 12 hours to construct the bulb, with he and Rob (the mind behind the initial concept of the bulb and the mathematics, according to Werner) putting in about six extra hours.

To the left of both the duck and the math, Werner and Stacey, and Connie Stebbins all worked together to create LOL, which stands for "laughing out loud." The trio was going to initially spell out LOVE, but, according to Stacey, "There was no love in the group, so we gave up on that and started laughing."

With varying levels, the first L stood at 9 feet while the O stood at 7 feet and the last L was 6 feet.

Rollin' old school

Career Day draws eager employers

By EARL PARSONS
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Businesses flocked to Bakersfield College in search of employees as part of BC's annual Career Day event on April 25.

The event drew in 137 employers from all over California who put up booths in the Campus Center and Fireside Room promoting their businesses and looking for potential employees.

"It's a good opportunity to bring employers and students together," said Denise Crawford, Career Day Chair and Work Ability III Coordinator.

Salvador Cervantes, Director of Sales for KKEY Telemundo Channel 11, a subsidiary of KGET Channel 17, was there to talk about four positions open within his organization. The positions of videographer, part-time anchor, sales and assignment editor are available for those who qualify. Also present were representatives from Clear Channel Radio and KERO-TV 23.

The Pacific Health Education Center, a non-profit organization that holds free health seminars, passed out chicken salad sandwiches to passersby, promoting the various programs they have at their 5300 California Ave. location. Also distributing food was Frito Lay, who has a factory on Highway 58 in Bakersfield.

Aera Energy, an oil and natural gas provider stretching from Sacramento to Los Angeles, was looking for people to work in their fields and in their offices.

Booths for vocational colleges and online universities abounded at Career Day. National University, the University of Phoenix, the University of Laverne, and San Joaquin Valley College were all present, offering information on credentialing programs and vocational degrees.

Some law enforcement present included the BPD, Kern County Sheriff's Department, Fresno Police Department, Kern County Probation Department, California Department of Corrections and the Madera County Sheriff's Department. Golden Empire Transit was there to "expose the position (GET has) to the community," Alvin Tagayon of Maxim Staffing Solutions explained that his company is "a supplemental staffing agency for the health care industry."

BC Career Day was coordinated by the Job Placement department. Members of the Financial Aid Department transported people to the booths.

According to Crawford, all the employers at the event seemed pleased about their prospects. "Employers love BC students," she said.

CAMPUS

BC students get internships

■ Bakersfield College science majors get important internships vital to their careers during summer.

By KATHERINE J. WHITE
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Campus editor

Bakersfield College student and electrical engineering enthusiast Antonio Magdaleno is getting his hands on satellites this summer, but it has nothing to do with getting more TV channels.

His satellites will be a little more stellar than that. BC biology major Kate Ball is spending the summer delving into the intricacies of magnetotactic bacteria.

Both Magdaleno and Ball have accepted internships at institutions that offer college students chances to participate in prestigious programs. Magdaleno has been accepted into a 10-week summer internship program offered by NOAA or the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in Silver Springs, Maryland. Ball has been admitted into a 10-week, 40-hour a week "research experience program for undergradu-

ates" in microbiology at the University of Nevada in Las Vegas.

Magdaleno said he belongs to not only BC's club MESA but also to BC's club HOPE or Hispanic Organization Promoting Engineering and Science, which is a chapter of a bigger organization called SHPE or the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers. According to Magdaleno, every year there is a big convention called NTCC or National Technical Career Conference. At the latest NTCC convention in January 2007, in Denver, Colorado, Magdaleno and a fellow BC engineering student met a Stanford University-based recruiter for NOAA.

The recruiter inquired about their GPAs and asked if they wanted to apply for NOAA. Magdaleno eventually applied online, and soon he received a confirmation of acceptance for the internship by NOAA. Only 15 students in the U.S. had been accepted into the summer program; two of these students were from California.

One of those Californian students was, of course, Magdaleno.

"I was really surprised when I got accepted as an intern by them," Magdaleno said.

Magdaleno said he will get free room, board, and a stipend of \$650 per week.

According to Magdaleno, an engineering student's chances for employment improve greatly with internships, especially if the internships are taken early on in the student's educational career. Companies favor students with internship experience, he said.

Magdaleno admitted he wants to work with satellites as a NOAA intern because satellites are connected with the weather. He is especially interested in hurricanes and hurricane hunters.

"Satellites take pictures of the atmosphere, and I think that is fascinating," Magdaleno said.

Magdaleno said that the NOAA building in Silver Springs, Maryland is next to the Discovery Channel building. NOAA is often called upon by Discovery to act as a consultant, Magdaleno said.

Magdaleno said that the NOAA building in Silver Springs, Maryland is next to the Discovery Channel building. NOAA is often called upon by Discovery to act as a consultant, Magdaleno said.

Riverside for research-related projects, he said. "Bioengineering student Juan Salcido will be interning at UC Berkeley and working on a project connected with biochemistry."

BC student and biology major Kate Ball is also looking forward to her intern experience in which she will work with a UNLV professor on projects involving gene isolation, magnetotactic bacteria, and replication PCR or polymerase chain reaction. Ball said that she is keenly interested in cell behavior. Ball hopes to use this interning experience as a future teaching tool. Her professional goal of course, is to be a college life science professor.

Ball admits part of the fun of the research will be exploring how the research findings can be applied to various professional fields. Part of her interning job will be to assist the professor in properly cataloging the findings.

Ball applied online for the internship after being directed by BC Professors Joe Saldivar and Janet Fuiks, who both often encourage their students to apply for internships, Ball said.

Ball will receive a stipend as well as free housing and meals. After the conclusion of her internship at UNLV, Ball will continue her education at Biofa University in La Mirada.



ERICK MAIN / THE RIP

BC yoga club to help people improve life

By TAYLOR M. GOMBOS
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Rip staff writer

There is a new yoga group at BC called PROUT. According to club founder Ricky Peterson, the synonym PROUT stands for Progressive Utilization Theory.

"PROUT is a theory, based on science, of how to utilize all the resources of the universe, all the aspects of the humans that can be developed: physical, mental and spiritual. It's a social-economic theory in that it talks about how spirituality and government all go together," Peterson said.

Peterson says that the reason for starting the club is that he wants the world to unite. "All of us, no matter where we come from, whatever our background, how can we all unite?"

Peterson said that the club wants to fight to better humanity and themselves. Peterson says that he has been practicing yoga for seven years.

Michael Home who is a member of this club, says he has been doing yoga since high school.

"My art teacher in high school taught me some things about yoga,

plus theater arts professor Kimberly Chin, who is also the club's adviser, did a little bit of yoga in her class, so I have had some experience in both high school and college," Home said.

According to Home, this club is different because it doesn't have a president.

Peterson explained why: "All of the leaders are secretaries. Instead of having a leader, per se, we have an ideology that leads, which is that we are all about our mission, which is self-realization and service to humanity. We all gravitate the different positions around this ideology," Peterson said.

Peterson said that the club has the following positions: Office Secretary, Secretary of Justice, General Secretary, Secretary of Fundraising and Finance, Secretary of Self-Realization, and Secretary of Service.

Peterson says that he wants to take those interested on a retreat so that they can get to know one another, do yoga and learn yoga and talk things like politics and spirituality.

PROUT has a free yoga session every Wednesday at 4 p.m. in the Executive Boardroom. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Sign Language club signs off with picnic

■ BC's Sign Language department offers 'Deaf Awareness' picnic to build cohesiveness.

By ASHLEE FLORES
aflores@bakersfieldcollege.edu
Rip staff writer

The Bakersfield College American Sign Language program sponsored

its annual Deaf Awareness picnic April 28 in the Campus Center.

Professors, students and others from the deaf community within Bakersfield came to be a part of the day.

According to Department Chair for ASL and Foreign Language Pam Davis, "It's the opportunity for our sign language students to interact with the deaf community, and we also use this time to honor students who have received awards and scholarships."

According to BC Professor Thomas Moran, one student, Bianca Borrero, won a number of awards. Moran said these awards "will help her as she transfers in the fall to Gallaudet University in Washington, DC. This is the only liberal arts university for the deaf in the world," Moran said.

Hearing students who attended the picnic as part of ASL class said they enjoyed their day. Evangelina Medel, an ASL student, said, "It was fun... their culture is different from ours,

but they know how to have fun."

Another student, Emmanuel Briones, said, "The picnic was great. I met a deaf guy named Adam and a classmate, and I won some games."

According to Davis, the picnic is held every spring and as an end of the year function for everyone to attend.

The events throughout the day included various picnic games and door prizes and a raffle where one individual won \$1,000 in gift certificates for travel.

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BC student Grall to study art history in Europe

By NICK STOCKTON
nstockton@bakersfieldcollege.edu
Editor in chief

Going away to Europe to learn about art is a young girl's dream.

Bakersfield College student Erica Grall says she has wakened from her dream to find it a reality. Grall is one of only 20 art history majors in the state of California to be accepted to the Cal State University International

Program in Florence, Italy. "Someone once told me about seeing the world through school," said Grall of her desire to enter the study abroad program. "It's been a goal and I dream to do this ever since." By

being admitted to a CSU while still a community college student, it qualified her for the program.

The application is "really generalized," according to Grall, and grade point average plays a big factor in the selection process. After the application and essay, Grall said she had an interview with a representative for the program at CSUB. According to Grall, the first question asked at the interview was "Why do you want to study abroad?" to which Grall answered, "Why wouldn't I?"

The application is based mainly on GPA, and Grall emphasized that hers would not have been as good if she had not gone to BC, "because the teachers really care, and they helped me get my GPA up."

Grall explained that students can apply any time during the year for the program, but the deadline for the

following spring semester is Feb. 1 of the same year. She chuckled after saying this and says, "I applied Jan. 31 at 10 p.m."

Grall leaves Aug. 29, and will be put into an accelerated Italian language and culture class three days after she arrives. Grall will be staying in a hotel for the first seven days, and "within that time they have agencies to help you get an apartment."

She looks forward to a busy year and plans on taking at least 15 units a semester while she is studying.

She plans on taking three courses in her major, and two in Italian language.

Grall hopes to be an ambassador for American culture while abroad and also for the international program once she returns. "I want to show people back home that there is a world out there. I want to show the

others who think they didn't have an opportunity that they do."

According to the California State University International Programs estimate, the total cost estimate for the student is approximately \$16,286.

Even though she will be collecting financial aid, she says that she is looking for sponsors "to help out with activities, state fees, etc." Working is not allowed while studying abroad, because she will be staying in Europe on a student visa.

The CSU study abroad program is not limited to art history majors, or Florence. For more information, go to www.calstate.edu/ip.

Grall encourages those who are interested in learning more about her experiences with the program thus far, as well as those who wish to sponsor her, to contact her at doggrtsmokey@hotmail.com.



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STAFF EDITORIAL

GOP should not abandon small gov't

Imagine a table divided into two sections. One side is labeled Strong Federal Government, and the other Limited Federal Government. Now imagine that you have pieces of wood with different political goals engraved on them.

Here are what some of the pieces of wood read: "Constitutional amendment outlawing abortion," "Constitutional amendment outlawing same-sex marriage," and "Government vouchers for private and religious schools."

Now take each piece of wood and carefully consider it in your mind. Is it a goal that would be more in line with a stronger federal government, or a more limited one?

If your understanding of politics is developed well enough, then you should have placed all of these on the side of the table representing a stronger federal government. However, these political goals are those of the socially conservative right wing, which is supposedly in favor of a more limited federal government.

At a purely political level, the main difference between the two Democratic and the Republican parties is that the former aims for and supports a large federal government, and the latter aims for and supports a smaller federal government. One philosophy is focused on the society, and the other is focused on the individual.

There lies the great confusion which disrupts the current political power structures.

Social conservatism and the Republican party are two concepts that have been wedded together in ignorance. Social conservatives stereotypically push for a federal government that will make constitutional amendments outlawing abortion, same-sex marriage, and vouchers for private and religious schools.

However, for a Republican candidate to make a political push for these goals would be playing false to the true goal of real conservatives: Individual liberty.

True Republicans do not oppose welfare, environmental protection, or gun control because they hate the poor, loathe the nature, or see the homicidal rage. True Republicans oppose these political goals because they believe that they should be able to choose whether they, as individuals, want to donate money for the poor, protect the environment, or carry a gun.

Attempting to force the government to change the constitution for social issues, be they liberal or conservative, is not a Republican ideal. In fact, if one were to take a concentrated look at the supporters of the Democratic party and their goals, they would find that many of them fall more in line with Republican ideals. Same-sex marriage protection, legalization of marijuana, and abortion rights all ask for a limited federal government.

In this way, the Democrats are just as guilty of pandering to ideological minorities as the Republicans.

While the structures of power that back our legislators should be fluid, and able to adapt to the changing moralities of the segments of society that decide to support them, there is a responsibility of these parties to stay true to the basic political ideologies that supposedly define them. This is especially true when the wants of the constituents are so diametrically opposed to the goals of the party.

It is not necessarily the fault of the parties for garnering votes from people who are not in line with its ideology. After all, getting votes is what a political party is supposed to do. People who have specific moral goals should make more informed choices about which party is better equipped and more practiced in shaping the type of Federal government they want.

Six Flags has great thrills and prices

By ASHLEE FLORES ashflores@bakersfieldcollege.edu Rip staff writer

Six Flags Magic Mountain has it all: rides for the entire family, great entertainment, and a wonderful variety of different cuisines.

Magic Mountain is one of the greatest theme parks you can go to near the valley. Approximately an hour away from Bakersfield, it's the best entertainment you can get for an entire day.

Let me tell you why: For starters, they've got roller coasters in all categories including rides for children, families, and thrill seekers. It's nice for those families who have kids of all ages groups all wanting to do different activities throughout the day.

While the little ones are enjoying Yosemite Sam's Flight School ride in Bugs Bunny World, the teens can scream their lungs out as they're riding up a 41-story tower at 100 mph on Superman the Escape.

Magic Mountain is known for some of the tallest, fastest, heart pounding, and daredevil rides that will make anyone scream like a girl, yet line up to ride it again.

Parades, animals, and fireworks shows are just some of the awesome entertainments. There are also over 20 different eateries to choose from; you just don't want to leave the mountain top.

Furthermore, who could forget those lovable little animals: Bugs Bunny, Taz, Tweety Bird, and Daffy Duck that pose to take a picture with you.

You can get all this entertainment for only \$28.00 if you're a member of Kern Schools Bank. However, if you're not, tell your grandma, aunt, or friend to hook you up with some tickets; somebody is bound to be linked with that bank.

A whole day of endless entertainment for that price is a steal when compared to Disneyland, which charges at least \$50.00 a ticket, and you don't even get the cool rides.

Really, who wants a mouse when you can have a bunny?



ERICK MAIN / THE RIP

Disneyland: More magical characters

By CRYSTAL ROBERTS croboters@bakersfieldcollege.edu Rip staff writer

Disneyland is better than Six Flags. There are many differences between the two amusement parks, but Disneyland is simply the better theme park.

Disneyland is a place where people of all ages can go and have fun. It's reminiscent of childhood and the days that were innocent and fun. Disneyland has all the characters that people grew up with, so it feels like a familiar place to be.

Six Flags has the giant roller coasters, end of story. It's not a place that people of all ages can go. Not only can a two-year-old enjoy Disneyland, but it can also be enjoyed as well by the oldest person who feels young at heart.

It is a place where families can go and couples as well. Could you imagine getting on an extreme coaster at Six Flags and looking at your beau?

Not happening! At Six Flags, there are hardly any entertainment shows of things people are familiar with. Besides looking at animals and a basic fireworks show, there really isn't much of anything going on. Disneyland's firework show involves

Disney characters with music playing from favorite Disney movies. There are always entertainment shows being performed, and there are even virtual reality rides that double as shows as well.

Disneyland is a place where you constantly say, "Look! Look!" Furthermore, you are fascinated with new and exciting things.

Six Flags boasts that it has coasters to give you thrills, but Disneyland has thrill rides, too! Most of the rides aren't as extreme as the ones in Six Flags, but they also provide the senses with thrills and excitement because they provide entertainment. For example, there is the roller coaster Space Mountain, located in Tomorrow Land. This coaster functions in the dark, and with special light and audio effects, you feel you are in another place.

Disneyland is all about making you feel as if you're somewhere else. Even the people who work there always stay in character and make you believe you are not at just another theme park. Six Flags doesn't offer this. You feel you are at Six Flags when you're at Six Flags. The people who work there are regular Joes who aren't in any particular character at all.

A Six Flags fan may argue that Disneyland is expensive and overpriced, but think about it: You get an all day pass to shows, rides, music performers, and childhood friends. There isn't a coaster in the world that can beat this.

'GADE FEEDBACK

Should campus security guards carry firearms? Charles Johnson, fire technology: "No, not really. If they're trained to be a cop, then yeah."

Tabitha Ward, liberal studies: "I guess for security reasons."

Ed McGee, physical education: "No, they should have people from an agency. The security guards already abuse their power."

Triston Jacobs, business: "No they shouldn't."

Ana Vega, undeclared: "No."

April Dunlap, art history: "No, I don't think it's safe."

Compiled by Crystal Roberts / The Rip

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Baldwin's comment provoked by man abuse

By LILIANA FAHEL lfahel@bakersfieldcollege.edu Rip staff writer

I was observing all the fuss over the Alec Baldwin voice message that he left for his 11-year-old daughter, Ireland, calling her a "rude thoughtless little pig."

Hearing the frustration in Baldwin's voice made me suspect that even though he was the one doing the yelling, he is the victim in this situation.

I'm always hearing about women being emotionally, verbally, and physically abused, how they're neglected by their partners, etc. At the risk of sounding like a male advocate here, what about the men who suffer at the hands of women?

I truly believe that Baldwin was the victim in this particular circumstance.

He made sure to always take the time out of his busy schedule and commit to making the appointed phone calls to his child and yet she was neglecting to answer his calls. Does anyone else think that maybe her mother encouraged this behavior in an attempt to frustrate Baldwin and get him to do precisely what he did? Who else would have released the voicemail?

It makes me sick how women use their sex and their children as tools to get what they want in situations such as this. I've seen it done over and over. Nobody takes the time to think about the men who are truly innocent and have been massacred by

these women. I've heard several divorce attorneys call the state of California "the woman's state," meaning women get a lot of slack here.

Last week in the newsroom one of my fellow staff writers was telling me about a woman who was raped and actually helped her rapist get her tight jeans off.

How often does that happen? I'm thinking she may just be a scorned girlfriend accusing this man of raping her.

There are a lot of vicious and malicious women out there who would do anything to get their revenge or perhaps their cut in what is almost always a messy divorce or breakup. I am certainly not disparaging the many women who truly are being victimized and done wrong, but let's

face it. A lot of women just take on the role of the victim.

There is an insane number of men who deal with obsessive, controlling, temperamental, verbally and physically abusive women and nobody even takes a second glance when they see that. Once anyone hears a guy merely criticize the smallest thing about his girlfriend suddenly he's a jerk and has abusive tendencies. What a crock.

If you ask me, women are much harsher than they appear to be. Just because they are referred to as the "fairer sex" doesn't necessarily mean they really are the fairer sex. In fact, they can be pretty brutal and very unfair.

What I'd like to see is an alliance for domestically abused men. Where should these men go who have been torn apart in court, lied about, had their reputations ruined, their children brainwashed against them, more than half of their possessions simply awarded to the other party? I've yet to see a support group for these poor men.

What really pisses me is that this Alliance Against Family Violence only takes in women who claim to be abused or in grave danger.

Why use the word "Family" if they don't take in men? Just change it to Alliance For Women Who Hate Men And Want To See Them Suffer. I'm thinking that would apply much better.

This alliance takes these women in basically on just their word and they appoint an attorney to fight for cus-

tody of the children if there should be any. Nine times out of ten they will win the custody battle, and I'm pretty sure it's based on the fact that these women sought refuge at this woman's shelter.

I could waltz in there any time of day and say "pssst, my husband beats the hell out of me," show no bruises or scars or anything and they are so ready to oblige.

They don't even stop to think if I'm just some crazy bi-polar lady who's seeking attention from just about anyone who's willing to let me act as the part of the victim.

Bottom line: It makes me sick to my core at how much women get away with if they just shed a few crocodile tears and fake faint before an audience. It's truly a shame.



ERICK MAIN / THE RIP

Dem pool filled with firsts

By JOEL R. PARAMO jparamo@bakersfieldcollege.edu Sports editor

Sure, politics might be boring, but with all the history that could be made in the 2008 presidential elections, it's time to pay a little more attention to who could possibly be the next President of the United States.

We need someone strong, someone who can clean up the mess of current President George W. Bush, and someone who can lead this country back to what our forefathers intended this nation to be.

Currently, there are eight democratic candidates who are planning to run. These are my top four:

Barack Obama: On Feb. 10, 2007, Obama announced to the United States that he would run for president.

If he wins the presidency, it will make him the first African-American President in the history of the U.S.A.

He is currently the senator of Illinois and has grown a large following. He speaks with wisdom, and though he may appear to be inexperienced, I could see this guy changing things for the American people.

His speeches are strong, and there's a sign of hope in his voice that reminds me of the speeches of John F. Kennedy. He's fresh and comes from a diverse background, living in the Middle East for part of his childhood.

Hillary Rodham Clinton: Hillary Rodham Clinton announced her candidacy on Jan. 20,

2007 forming an exploratory committee with a post on her website.

Clinton is currently New York's Senator. If she wins presidency, it will make her the first woman to take the presidency of the United States.

Some people say that she is more liberal than her husband, former president Bill Clinton. That is kind of exciting, and she currently leads in popularity.

She speaks like Martha Stewart did on her television show: soft, caring, and kind of fake. I'd watch out for this one, though: She's got the experience, but it's not normal for politicians to come off so sweet and caring.

John Edwards: The former U.S. Senator of North Carolina, after losing his candidacy for Vice President in 2004, continued to raise money for the 2008 elections and formally announced his candidacy on Dec. 26, 2006. He's obviously an all-around nice guy who refused to attack his opponents in the last election.

However, his positive attitude didn't get him very far and might not get him very far in upcoming elections. Maybe the saying, "Nice guys finish last" is true in this case.

Bill Richardson: This guy is a Hispanic American, and, if he wins the presidency, it will be another first in U.S. history. He currently is the Governor of New Mexico and is a former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, Secretary of Energy, and U.S. Representative.

Though his candidacy is a little wavering, in the race, one minute out and back the next, he's experienced and has been around the block. But I'm guessing he'd be great serving as Vice President.

always believed that what He meant was that there will always be greedy, selfish people who will always be around to exploit the poor, and that therefore, because of this, the poor would always remain with society.

Some people interpret this verse as meaning that poverty will be a problem that will remain with society and will never be solved. However, Christ could not have meant this. He just could not have meant that. People who say poverty is an issue that can never be resolved are avaricious people who want to have an excuse to exploit the poor. There are some people out there with the blasphemous audacity to use God, no less, as an excuse for their exploitative behavior. But hey, that is biblical, is it not? It has been done before. Just think of American slave owners; they used the Bible no less to qualify the ungodly practice of slave owning. They would quote the verse that runs, "Slaves, be subject to your masters."

Captain America-wannabes like Bush who need poor people, remember this: Hard-working people can get into desperate situations. Well, maybe people who yell that they are adults and this this is a capitalistic country are right in principle.

However, fat load of good capitalism has done for Russia. Those Russian people were completely unprepared for capitalism; in lieu of communism, the Russians have rampant crime, poverty, gang problems, unemployment and all of the sugar plums of so-called democracy, not to mention elderly people facing pension-deprived futures because so-called democracy and capitalism came too late for them.

John F. Kennedy once said that democracy is the best of the worst of political systems; however, democracy, conjointed at the hip with its evil twin, capitalism, is just simply bad.

Right-wing goes old-school

By NICK STOCKTON nstockton@bakersfieldcollege.edu Editor in chief

The superstars of the 2008 presidential race are undoubtedly Democrats.

Paul is really into the old-school Republican values of states' rights and constitutional sovereignty. Paul feels that the job of the president is to protect liberty, not "When government use force, liberty is sacrificed." Paul opposed the initial Iraq invasion, and opposes the overall interventionist foreign policy of modern American government.

This commitment to limiting the government's power to interfere in affairs both domestic and abroad is what attracts me the most to this candidate.

I chose my top four from those candidates who have declared an intent to run. Although I am not a Republican, I admire the classic Republican values. I also admire candidates who make personal decisions and implement them into their platforms, which is why current front-runner Mitt Romney is absent from my list.

My picks are mostly fiscally conservative, and while they may not all be considered exactly socially progressive, they are at least open-minded.

First and foremost, Paul rejects "the notion that we need a president to run our lives, play in the economy, or police the world." He is a strong constitutionalist and has a steady libertarian voting record.

Paul is really into the old-school Republican values of states' rights and constitutional sovereignty. Paul feels that the job of the president is to protect liberty, not "When government use force, liberty is sacrificed." Paul opposed the initial Iraq invasion, and opposes the overall interventionist foreign policy of modern American government.

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My picks are mostly fiscally conservative, and while they may not all be considered exactly socially progressive, they are at least open-minded.

It takes character and confidence to support a persons decision, but confront them on how they carry it out.

He also shows very good judgment on bipartisan issues, and thinks with his head out from under his party's hat.

John Cox: Veteran, while relatively weak in political experience compared to the others, John Cox, a CPA from Chicago, is the most fiscally conservative candidate.

He has been involved with the Republican Party for a long time, but has failed in both his 2000 run for the House of Representatives and his 2002 run for Senate.

He has revolutionary ideas, like requiring Iraq to pay for war expenses through oil profits after they have a stable economy (which requires a solid plan for wrapping the war up) and doing away with income tax and the IRS attract notice and made me scoff initially.

However, after reading more about his actual plans for accomplishing these goals, he becomes an attractive candidate.

However, he lost points with me by succumbing to the pressures of the social conservative sect of the right wing, by making political commercials supporting their agendas.

Rudy Giuliani: I admire essentially two things about Rudy Giuliani.

The first is his leadership ability. He literally wrote the book on the subject. Anyone who has been in a work setting where something as trivial as a copy machine has broken down knows how hard it is to lead people through a crisis.

Giuliani has led New York City through the greatest modern crisis in the past century, and he has every right to brag and bask in this accomplishment.

The second thing I admire, though I admit it confuses me, is his progressive platform. He is pro-choice, supports rights for same-sex relationships equal to marriage, and supports strong gun control. These three platform items are the textbook Democratic issues, and it is a bold move for Giuliani to make, but it begs the question: Why not just run as a Democrat?

But this confusion is not why Giuliani is not my first pick for Republican nominee. It is because he has shown himself to be far too temperamentally volatile for the honor of my first place Republican pick. That and his rocky personal life are indicators that while he may know how to handle a crisis, he might run into problems working his way through the day to day grind.

Fresno tax to help homeless

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

Fresno has implemented a new tax aimed at providing housing for the homeless, which is sure to raise the ire of staunch capitalists and brave little and Republicans everywhere. It seems like a good idea to me.

A few years ago in Florida, a county began buying cars for low-income single mothers, which was a good thing because buying hunking became easier for them. However, brain-challenged fools like Bush would say that counties should not try to provide a means of escape from poverty for some people. Of course, this attitude helps perpetuate poverty.

It is communism, they scream. This is America; individualism is important here. These people are adults; they should take care of themselves, capitalists say.

However, these people are not thinking things through. It is all right to bear in mind certain principles, but it cannot take the place of the thinking that goes beyond common accepted parameters. Principles should not be used to restrict and constrain critical thinking skills. Principles are supposed to be the reference guides for more evolved thinking.

One important thing to remember is that any aid distributed to the needy should be temporary. Moreover, any aid should help individuals get into self-sufficient positions.

However, some people may say that these people should not get any help whatsoever.

It is a proven fact that if you do not take care of a problem, it stays. So, poverty has to be addressed with some type of solution, or society will never be rid of it.

No, Jesus Christ once said, "The poor will always be with you." I have

democracy is the best of the worst of political systems; however, democracy, conjointed at the hip with its evil twin, capitalism, is just simply bad.

Look for life on this planet first

By JOEL PARAMO jparamo@bakersfieldcollege.edu Sports editor

Trying to prove the existence of aliens is like trying to prove the existence of unicorns or mermaids. Searching the galaxy for life is a mermaid because they find an alien that could possibly wreck havoc on our world as we know it.

The question here is whether or not there is life on other planets. Sure, there has got to be life on a planet outside of our solar system, but it's probably a life form useless to humanity. Science fiction drives people to believe that there's got to

be something out there that will help explain our life on Earth when in reality we should be searching our own planet for the answers. Honestly, scientists are still discovering life forms on earth that they've never recorded.

Seriously, I want them to find a mermaid before they find an alien that could possibly wreck havoc on our world as we know it.

It's all based on hypothetical speculation and theories. People shouldn't waste time and money on speculation of life on other planets that we, as human beings, couldn't even reach. The stars are endless.

BC BRAINS

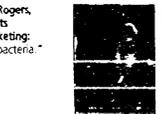
Editor's note: BC Brains is a feature that asks students a question to test their knowledge of all things trivial.



Laura Gaytan, liberal arts and science: "Something made a woman."



Silvia Obese, anatomy: "Something that helps the hormones in a woman."



J.R. Rogers, sports marketing: "A bacteria."



Minami Perales, art: "I haven't a clue."



Carmen Gonzalez, accounting: "A sex hormone."

What is progesterone?

CONTRAST ARTWORK: A hormone which helps the uterus for the first and second months of pregnancy.

Prime Cut built for meat and potatoes people

By **DONNY VAN SLOTON**
dvan@bakfieldcollege.edu
Rip staff writer

RESTAURANT REVIEW

Prime Cut serves up a prime meal. Prime Cut recently moved from its location at Stockdale Highway to a bigger spot at 9500 Brimhall Road and Calloway Drive. As soon as I walked in, I couldn't help but notice a sign that read "In Barbecue We Trust."

This was my first time eating at Prime Cut, so I didn't know what to expect. I walked in around lunchtime and was greeted by a welcoming hostess. She asked if I would prefer a table or a booth. A booth, I replied.

I already knew this was going to be good service. A New Orleans atmosphere surrounded the inside. The walls are neatly decorated in a Mardi Gras theme. They also included beer logos and signs. Blues music playing in the background really added to the New Orleans theme. The inside was well maintained. It was very clean and tidy.

Shortly after sitting down, a waitress was at my booth. Before I could open the menu, she asked if I wanted anything to drink. When I opened the menu, I had a tough choice to make. Everything on it sounded good: sandwiches, burgers, and steaks, oh my. After much thought, I decided to order two sandwiches. First, I tried a deep pit beef sandwich that cost \$6.99. The sandwich was stuffed with

deep pit beef. The beef was seasoned perfectly and melted in my mouth. Then I tried the hot tri tip sandwich that costs \$7.29. The tri tip was delicious: the seasoning, the thin slices, everything about it was good. Both sandwiches were the best I've eaten in a long time.

The Prime Cut has a bar with a giant mirror and two TVs. Both of the TVs had sporting events on. One had

on sports news and the other had on NASCAR. On the side of the bar was a sign that read "Beware pickpockets and loose women."

The Prime Cut also has a butcher shop inside. The butcher shop sells meats, spices, and everything else a butcher sells. Whether you want to eat there or bring it home and make it yourself, Prime Cut is the place to go for good meats and eats.

Oildale: Fill your plate in the '08

By **EARL PARSONS**
eparsons@bakfieldcollege.edu
Rip staff writer

AREA REVIEW

Get'er done. Oildale represents that sliver of 1930s Dust Bowl migration still evident in Central Valley life today. An unincorporated community directly across the Kern River from Bakersfield, parts of Oildale have maintained the same backwater, blue-collar, "we don't take kindly to y'all round here" persona for the last 50 years.

Let me tell you what (sic) types of sights you can see in the '08.

Trout's
805 No. Chester Ave.

Drink a watered-down American beer and two-step with a one-toothed alcoholic at this legendary bar. The only thing missing from this dive is the decades-old jar of pickled eggs.

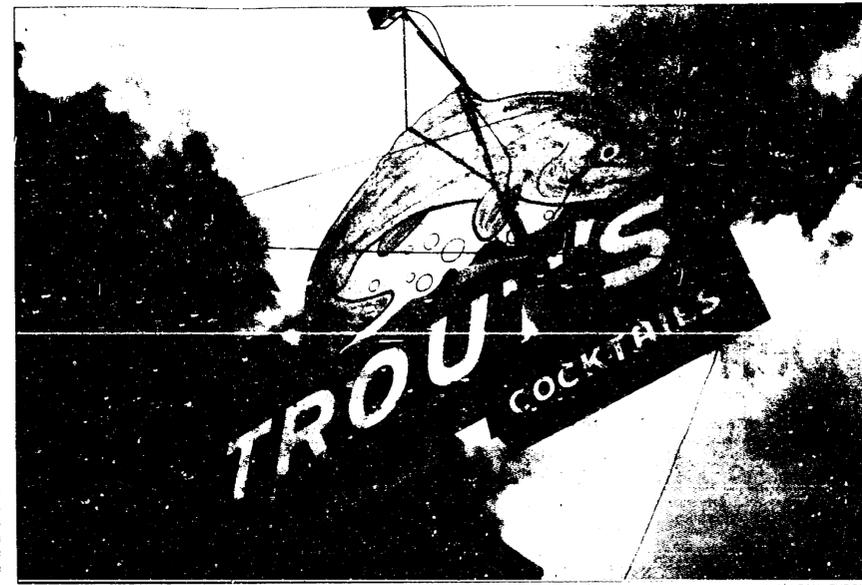
Nature's Medicinal
323 Roberts Lane

If you either suffer from a debilitating ailment or have \$350 a year and know the right doctor, you can purchase quality medicinal remedies for a little more than their street value here. This is just one of the two medicinal cooperatives in Oildale, the other being Sweet Relief on 1340 Roberts Lane.

Interesting names for their products include Romulan, New York City Diesel, Skywalker, and the ever-popular Alaskan Thunder***.

The Pit
Behind Nature's Medicinal

This colorful apartment complex/trailer park directly behind the medicinal cooperative, so named because it dips down a hill, features all of the stereotypical white trash life made popular by Hee-Haw. The smell of boiling crystal meth can be wafted from the sidewalk.



NICK STOCKTON / THE RIP

Trout's on North Chester is heavy on the cocktails, but light on the dancing.

Riverview Park
401 Willow Drive

Aside from being a safe haven for straggling homeless people on their way to collecting recyclables, this park features the first and most difficult disc golf course in all of Kern County.

At no charge to the public, aside from the specialty discs, Frisbee golf, or as I like to call it, "frolf," is an entertaining way to spend a boring afternoon when you're broke.

El Taquito
912 No. Chester Ave.

You wouldn't expect to find good Mexican food in Oildale, but El Taquito has some of the best cuisine

this side of the border. Delectable delicacies include the chile relleno rice and bean burrito, homemade chips, chile verde and fresh horchata.

Super Tom's
100 Roberts Lane

Unlike The Carousel on Airport Drive and Carla's on China Grade Loop, which overcharge for anorexically portions of food, Super Tom's gives you more bang for your buck.

Aside from having the best chili cheese fries in town, they also make good pastrami sandwiches, Philly cheesesteaks, and fried mushrooms.

Pirate statue
In front of L&D Picture Framing

You'll be swashbuckling your way over to L&D Picture Framing on North Chester Avenue as soon as you see this buccaneer. The lion next to him doesn't know why he's there.

Meadow's Field
3701 Wings Way - domestic
1401 Skyway Dr. #200 - international

With flights coming in from all over the country and even Mexico, Meadow's Field Airport in Oildale is the gateway to the South Valley.

Royaldale
North of Norris Road

The people living in the new hous-

ing developments around North High School don't care to have their area affiliated with the Oildale name.

Called North Meadows, on the AAA map of Bakersfield, it is essentially the same part of Oildale that used to be nothing but oil sumps 20 years ago.

Don't let the real estate developers fool you.

Kern River Belle
100 No. Chester Ave.

This sardine-can sized saloon just off of the Chester Bridge is pretty dead except for Sunday nights, when you can usually watch grown men push each other for an hour before they begin fighting outside, reminiscent of high school sophomores.

Barrett stays on light side of the moon

By **CHRIS GARZA**
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Rip staff writer

ALBUM REVIEW

With sly wit and a loathsome nature, Opel was released in 1988 by Harvest Records and is a mixture of Syd Barrett unreleased tracks and alternative takes.

Barrett was one of the founding members of Pink Floyd and wrote a great deal of Piper at the Gates of Dawn, which was Pink Floyd's first release.

Piper at the Gates of Dawn is a very layered and dynamic album and was Barrett's first and only release with the group. In a hazy affair of sorts, Barrett left the group and was

replaced by David Gilmour. On this album, Barrett can be heard without any clothes or padding as nothing but skeletons are found. His voice sounds a little shaky and the guitar strumming sounds a bit flaky at times, but that is one of the reasons that makes this album worth listening to. It is raw and honest and at times you feel as if you are sitting there with him while he is playing. Literally, you can hear him turning

pages or as on "Dolly Rocker," you can hear someone ask him what the song is called and then hear him answer back.

"It's called 'Dolly Rocker' it's an old make of dress."

The album is also filled with odd humor, such as the song Effervescent Elephant, in which the elephant wags his mouth to all the animals in the jungle that the tiger is going to be on the loose and they might get eaten. The rest of the animals spread their tongue disease to one another warning the tiger's arrival.

The tiger arrives and proclaims that he wouldn't harm any of the animals because they were too small, but the tiger ends up eating the elephant because he was the chiest of them all.

If you heard his wordage and the way he sings, you'd laugh a lot harder.

Another pretty entertaining song is "Clowns and Jugglers (Octopus)." This song has a nice rhythm and features Barrett spewing rhymes in a psychedelic hip-hop fashion.

The bass line will stick out at times, and then the song will break down into a dark carnival-funk type movement, which sounds very nice. "Please leave us here, close our eyes to the Octopus ride."

The songs were recorded between the years 1968-1970. Barrett can be heard using acoustic or electric guitar with no one in the background supporting.

On a few songs, there is other instrumentation, such as "Clowns and Jugglers" as well as on "Gigolo Aunt," but for the most part Syd is playing and singing on his own.



NICK STOCKTON / THE RIP

This pirate statue on North Chester in front of L&D Picture Framing is more exciting than what's actually in the store.

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Spring fashion all about pastels and sixties look

By **CRYSTAL ROBERTS**
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Rip staff writer

FASHION REVIEW

Ladies, it's finally here. Spring is upon us and the fashion we love is too. A '60s-inspired look is setting the trend along with color, color, color this spring and summer of 2007.

It's all about the colors. Yellows, oranges, blues, greens and off whites are definite "must have" colors in your closet this season.

Light pastels are great for the spring; they're soft and add a nice touch of color to your wardrobe; however, come summer, the deep darker versions of the colors mentioned will definitely be hot!

Colors are great, but they look even better when they compliment particular skin tones. For light to fair skin tones, try wearing red and different variations of blue and pink; this will work with your pink undertones and not make you look so light.

Fair to medium skin tones can wear variations of pink, aqua, and coral to bring out your skin's natural undertones. Medium to deep skin tones can focus on dark blues, deep yellows, and whites are perfect. These colors

lie perfectly along a darker skin tone and really do compliment it.

Along with the color variation this season, there are the '60s-inspired styles. Baby-doll dresses, chunky jewelry, and kimono-sleeved tops can make you look great. Paris Hilton ushered in the baby-doll dress trend, and it caught on. Wearing these baby-doll dresses as tops paired with jeans has also become very popular.

Less fitted tops have also come

back for 2007 spring and summer. Instead of wearing everything fitted, try wearing a top that is fitted in the bust area, and loosens up as it flares out to the bottom. This style of top can flatter any body type and looks best with long-beaded jewelry.

Chunky colorful jewelry is also a "must have" this season.

Earrings, bracelets, rings and necklaces are a great way to compliment an outfit. Wear jewelry that is not a primary color in what you have on. Instead, try to bring out the less obvious colors in your outfit with pieces of jewelry.

So there you have it, fashion tips for the spring and summer of 2007.

Many of these designs can be found at various stores in Bakersfield that include Charlotte Russe, Macy's, Victoria's Secret, Forever 21, and Express.

Spidey slings to silver screen again

By **JEREMY TERRAZAS**
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Rip staff writer

MOVIE REVIEW

Spider-Man explodes off the screen for the third time with sold out showings. The Spider-Man movies, based on the Marvel Comic series, have yet to let the people down.

In this addition, Peter Parker (Tobey Maguire) has finally got his division of time spent between Mary Jane (Kirsten

Dunst) and his responsibilities as the super hero Spider-Man down to a science and is enjoying his life.

He can spend time with MJ, and still manage to save the city from its almost constant brushes with disaster.

But there is a new problem that he learns to face as he comes in contact with a black substance that attaches itself to his suit and begins to take over him entirely.

Along with his internal dilemmas at present, there is also the threat of Sandman played by Thomas Haden Church, who later has been found to be true murderer of Peter's uncle Ben in the first film.

Sandman teams up later in the film with Eddie Brock (Topher Grace), an aspiring photographer for the Daily Bugle, who later becomes Venom after Peter rids himself of the black substance.

Meanwhile, after a quick fight that leaves the new goblin Harry Osborn (James Franco), Peter has to make up with an old embittered friend.

All ends with Spider-Man, of course, beating all the bad guys, rescuing the damsel in distress, tying up all the loose ends, and, just as we all could have assumed, gets the girl.

The movie satisfies on all playing fields, the drama unfolds between characters; there are a few quick laughs to give you a breath between the intense action sequences, all rounding out for another great addition to the Spider-Man Marvel Comic series.

This movie is a "must-see" family film and is good for all ages. If you do not care for the Spider-Man movies, then, at an almost two hours and thirty minutes, it is sure to kill some time; good luck trying to sleep through it, though.



COURTESY OF COLUMBIA PICTURES

'Superman Returns' is just another bad game about a movie

By **STEVEN MARTIN**
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Rip staff writer

GAME REVIEW

"Superman Returns" for the Xbox 360 may be the best Superman game of all time, but that's like saying "you're the least diseased member of the leprosy colony."

"Superman Returns" by EA

Games, shows a lot of promise, and I really wanted to enjoy and have fun with it. However, its glaring technical problems were just too much to overcome. "Superman Returns" is based on the summer movie of the same name. That's the first problem the player encounters: When a game is based on a lousy movie, there's going to be a lousy game. It's been five years since Superman left Earth to find out if his home planet of Krypton was destroyed. After finding out that it was, he returns to Earth to find out that the planet has moved on to the point that the question of whether or not he is still needed arises. During the game you will encounter and sometimes battle a variety of classic Superman foes like Lex Luthor, Metallo, Mongul, and the impish Mr. Mxyzptlk. While those characters appear in the game, the main thing you'll be fighting is a horrendous camera system. Seldom have I seen a camera this bad in a game before, and I've played a lot of games throughout the years. Whether you're flying

running, or just battling it out on the city streets, the camera tends to put you in the worst viewing angle possible. Another big problem with this game is the hit detection. Superman can throw a punch six feet away from a villain and still somehow make it connect. I've seen wrestling matches that were more believable than this.

Also the biggest gripe I have against "Superman Returns" is that the game kept freezing up on me. It's one thing to be defeated by superior firepower, or a really tough boss, but to be defeated by poor programming is unacceptable. I have to really wonder if there was any beta testing on "Superman Returns", and if there were, that the testers were distracted by playing better games. Also, I'm astounded by the developers' choice for the final boss. It's not any of the super baddies I mentioned earlier but a tornado. Yes, you read correctly, a tornado. Having Superman fight a weather pattern is kind of like having Aquaman fight coastal erosion.

For all of Superman's problems (which believe me are many), the game does rarely have its moment of fun. For instance, it allows you to fly above the sprawling city of Metropolis or run along the city streets at super speed. This can be a lot of fun when the camera behaves itself.

So in conclusion, "Superman Returns" is, for all intents and purposes, a waste of time and money. I hope for the day when a Superman game will do the character justice. "Superman Returns" for the Xbox 360 gets a 2 out of 10.

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Canadian metal can scream for three miles

By **GABINO VEGA**
gvega@bakfieldcollege.edu
Rip staff writer

All right metal heads, it is time for a new band to rise up and take over the petty little wannabe bands out there, and the band's name is 3 Mile Scream.

This band has an incredible fusion of Thrash Metal and couple of hardcore breakdowns and topped off with mellow chorus vocals.

Canadian band 3 Mile Scream released their album on Nov. 28, 2006, and so far has had positive comments from different magazines and websites.

The first song is not even considered a song.

It's more of an introduction to the devastation it's about to inflict on your ears.

Though it's smooth and relaxing, you don't expect the guitar to start off the song "Mourning the Lost" and make you nod your head. Rock on!

Throughout the CD, this band did not use the same riffs over and over like some bands that play the intro, chorus, middle, chorus, and end.

This band played the intro, different riffs, chorus, metal, chorus, solo/breakdown, and end.

A variety of music was given, and I appreciated all of it.

Songs that stood out from the rest were the tracks: "Our Blackened Sun," "Dare to Question," "What Once Was" and "Apathy."

Small solos and incredible breakdowns blasted through the headphones and impressed me the way it was structured together.

Pretty much in every chorus, there were soft hardcore vocals sounding great with the rest of the song.

The structure was great, the length of the songs, the speed was steady, and the beats were understandable.

The only negative parts of this album were the soft chorus throughout all the songs.

I'm not a big fan on these softies, but people who have a different taste than me would appreciate it more.

I give this CD a 9.5 out of 10.

To the members of this band, I say, "Keep up the great work. 3 Mile Scream," and for you listeners at home, if they come in a town near you, check this new band out.

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FEATURES

Balls to the Wall: The River

By NICK STOCKTON
nstockt@bakersfieldcollege.edu
Editor in chief

For those of you who read the last installment of Balls to the Wall, let me clear something up. Earl Parsons and I do not share shorts. I know there are some suspicious similarities between our choices in swim wear, but let me assure all of you that we are just two men with similar highly developed fashion senses.

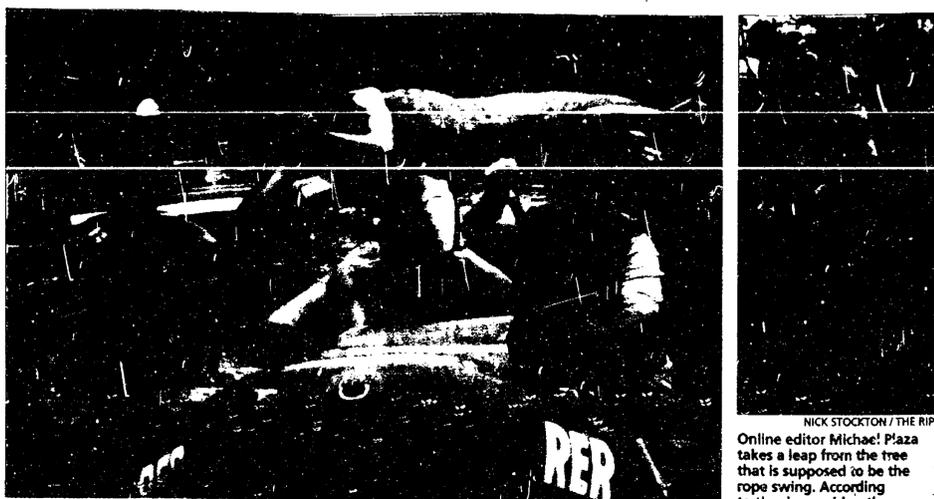
That said, for the final feature in this series, we decided to pay homage to the upcoming summer season with some white water rafting. To do so, we embarked with Darren Nelson and his corp of instructors and trainees on an old bus loaded up with three rafts and one inflatable kayak.

The Rip staff for this mission, which included myself, online editor Michael Plaza, and staff writer Kyle Beall, jumped in the third raft with our instructor Justin Thomas and his younger brother Garrett.

As we floated through the choppy "wake up rapids" at the beginning of the run, Justin explained how the rapids were classed.

"Class one is pretty much a normal current, and class six is a waterfall. The rest of the rapids fill in the rest of the numbers accordingly." He went on to tell us more about the Kern, which is rated among the top five rafting destinations in the country. The course we were taking was from the mouth of the Kern Canyon to Lake Ming, which is almost four miles. All the rapids in this run are generally class two to three, but the rapids above the canyon reached class five level.

The next major rapid we hit was the Bridge Rapid. As we were coming out of this rapid, we spied two fishermen standing on a rock which jutted out into the river. The oddest thing about this pair was that they were wearing life vests, which Justin commented on by calling them "dorky."



Nick Stockton, guide Justin Thomas, Kyle Beall and Garrett Thomas navigate the Kern River rapids. MICHAEL PLAZA / THE RIP

As we drew closer to them, it was obvious that they were not fishermen at all. They were two more of the guys who were supposed to be rafting with us, which prompted me to wonder, "Why the hell are these two guys just standing here on a rock in the middle of the forest?"

I soon learned that this was irrelevant. This was Jimmy Bunting with his friend Brandon Hess. Jimmy didn't need a reason to stand on a rock in the middle of the Kern River.

Never has there been a person more appropriately named than Jimmy Bunting. For anyone who has ever heard a "Little Jimmy" joke, Jimmy is the grown-up version of that kid.

Almost immediately after joining our boat, Jimmy set about entertaining us with his paddle tricks. At first, I thought these were going to be crazy MTV Sports caliber moves, but somehow balancing a paddle on your hand or spinning the paddle across the bowline of the boat aren't the kinds of things to make Dan Cortese throw up the extreme metal sign.

Most of the rapids were pretty tame. I never really got a good adrenaline rush worked up. This was not the fault of the rafting guys, though. I blame the engineers at the Isabella Dam for throwing salt in my Kool-Aid. The water was just too low for the rapids to properly form over the rocks.

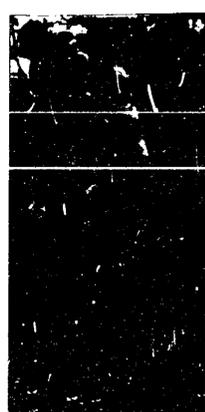
After Justin explained this to those of us in the raft, Jimmy gives his opinion of what the three real threats to white water rafting are: "Environmentalists, liberals, and beavers."

He illustrated his third example by pointing out how the beavers had gnawed down one of the trees where a rope swing used to hang. A short while down the river he points out some small caves on the bank and says, "That is where the beavers live, like the Taliban."

He never really explains how the other two are harming the sport, other than giving a conspiracy theory about how the deer are predators to rafters. Justin had told us about a rope swing further down the river, and I was pumped to use it. But we got to the tree, and there was no swing. I was pretty disappointed until Justin suggested that I jump out of it.

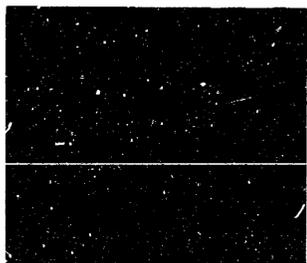
My only suggestion when anyone is thinking about jumping 20 feet from a tree is that they do not tuck their knees into the cannonball position. My improper form led this to be the most "balls to the wall" experience of this entire series.

Luckily, the water was cold enough to numb down the pain in my man area, so I only had to take a minute breather before I got out to photograph Michael, who was a bit more graceful in his jump.



Online editor Michael Plaza takes a leap from the tree that is supposed to be the rope swing. According to the river guides, the sheriff removes the rope periodically. NICK STOCKTON / THE RIP

We were shivering, but the sun was out by this time and we warmed up before we got back to the bus after a few more rapids. We were all smiles as we navigated the minefield of cow chips leading to the bus. Darren gave us all high fives and we set about planning our next trip to the lower Kern rapids.



Nick Stockton shows his enthusiasm. MICHAEL PLAZA / THE RIP

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FEATURES

Festival of Bands: Eighty bands rock The Dome

By MARCINDA COIL
marcoil@yahoo.com
Opinions editor

One ticket, two days, three stages, and 80 bands described the Festival of Bands, which took place April 28-29 at The Dome.

Twenty-five dollars was the only asking price to see Switch Syndrome, Desillusion, Bleed the Dream, Cyanide Baptism, Talk of the Town, My Private Hell, Sol Asunder, Hornz and Halo2, Cage9, Godhead, and many more.

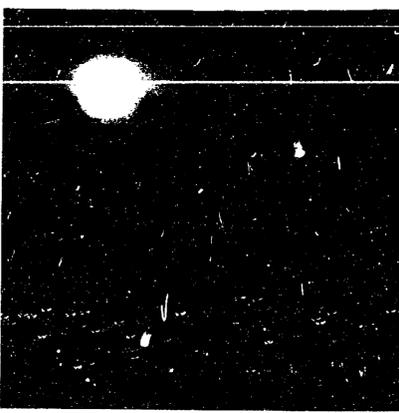
"Hybrid, nihilistic and tortured, they suck at your soul and get better with every listen," said Rolling Stone about Godhead's hard rock music.

Godhead formed in the mid-1990s in Washington, D.C. and has been known to perform with Marilyn Manson, Disturbed, Static-X, Mudvayne, Rammstein, and even performed at Ozzfest. They are also recognizable in three motion picture soundtracks: In the Company of Men, The Blair Witch Project, and Dracula 2000.

Another band on the up and up is Los Angeles based Cage9. Cage9 has played with Seether, Buckcherry, Amy Lee of Evanescence, Ice T, Adema, and is now touring with Powerman 5000. Cage9's singer/guitarist Evan Rodaniche is also the lead guitarist in Powerman 5000.

"We play for the kids. We even play for the parents. But we play what we want," said Rodaniche in myspace.com/cage9.

According to the band's myspace.com, the name Cage9 is a fusing of the German word for "no" with "cage" to epitomize the group's no limits approach towards creating music.



Taylor X, bassist of Petroleum, Performs April 29 at The Dome. Petroleum was part of the two day Festival of Bands event. MICHAEL PLAZA / THE RIP

Well, there were no limits to The Dome's hosting of the bands.

As fans and curious music lovers passed through the opening of The Dome, which held a couple of small bars for the thirsty, they entered the main stage. The room, which held the main stage, was round with seats

all around the stage. Though the seats were like wooden steps, people could find padded movie theater-like seating across from the stage at the very top. Cup holders were available.

Those who rocked on the main stage included Seed, In Theory, Novella, Portrait of the Artist, Roark, Petroleum, and A Skylit Drive.

The young Sacramento six member band, A Skylit Drive, mixes the sound of heavy metal with that of a woman's hard rock sound. The audience appeared impressed by the lead guitarist's leap of faith into the audience's arms. They supported him back onto the stage and both continued to rock out.

A Skylit Drive will be coming back to Bakersfield June 2 at Stramler Park with Kottensmouth Kings, Halifax, and more. However, there were more than hard rock and heavy metal enthusiasts at The Dome.

Solo artist Roark also came to show Bakersfield what he's got. His influences include Stone Temple Pilots, Sarah McLachlan, Stevie Wonder, Nirvana, Tom Petty, the Eagles, Cure, and classical music.

"Tons and tons more from equally random genres and styles," said Roark on myspace.com/roarknj. "It's all about a good mix."

If people did not care for the band on the main stage, they often wandered in and out to check out the other two stages. On the way to the

small side stage, booths were set up to sell various bands' merchandise; it was also a place for a smoke break.

Even though the side stage was small, it was still set up with a bar and a floor for the mosh pit.

Continuing on through the side stage's exit, was another stage located in a bigger outside area with seats and another bar.

People moved quickly as the bands changed up. Bands had approximately 15 minutes to set up and 20 minutes to play in order for all 80 bands to fit into the schedule time. However, not all performances were on time.

Pink hair, pointy orange-heeled Jeffrey Star closed the last night of Festival of Bands.

Though the night went into overtime, some stayed to hear Jeffrey Star.

"In case you didn't know I'm really really popular," said Star in myspace.com/jeffreystar.

Star, 20, grew up in Orange County and became a celebrity makeup artist at the age 16. He has appeared on America's Next Top Model as well as in magazines, and his songs played on MTV's "NEXT." According to myspace.com/jeffreystar, he has an upcoming television show and record.

To view all the bands that performed at Festival of Bands, go to myspace.com/festivalofbands.

to enjoy their day in "A Little Bit of Bakersfield."

Parents could admire the Artisan's Fair or the historical display area while the children played.

Family entertainment, however, was only available from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Festival goers could then pick up strawberry daiquiris, beer at the Beer Garden, or shaved ice while they waited for the bands to begin. A hot dog booth was also available for the famished.

However, to some, the festival was a great excuse to throw family barbecues and wade in the water.

The first annual festival opened up the Park at River Walk, and the second annual festival kept up the tradition of the free entertainment available in Bakersfield.

Stampsede brings "Streets of Bakersfield" to Bakersfield.

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Brewers blow up Bakersfield

By MICHAEL PLAZA
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Online editor

Over 175 beers, more than 100 local sponsors, and hundreds of patrons gathered at Stramler Park April 28 for the 15th annual Festival of Beers presented by the Active 20-30 Club of Bakersfield.

Over the last 14 years, the Active 20-30 Club has raised more than \$540,000 through the festival to support various local charities.

The Active 20-30 Club of Bakersfield donate proceeds to M.A.R.E., Cystic Fibrosis Foundation of Kern County, Boys and Girls Club, Kern County Firefighters Association Burn Foundation, Police Activities

League, and 15 other local charities. From 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. the beer flowed, multiple bands played, and the food was devoured from various restaurants and catering companies.

Upon entering, patrons received a complimentary cup of beer, and a card with 40 boxes to be marked off for each sample.

There was also a VIP area under a tent, where VIP ticketholders received a special cup and unlimited tasting.

Sound Choice, Midnight Panic, Haystack, and Fallout: The Police Experience performed throughout the day, attracting sparse crowds of people becoming more and more intoxicated by the sip.

Fronted by David Rasner, and hailed from Los Angeles, Fallout: The Police Experience gained a healthy crowd, playing later in the day, and performed Police cover songs which everyone seemed more familiar with.

Budweiser, Sol, Corona, B.J.'s, Sierra Nevada, Michelob, Rolling Rock, and Fat Tire were just a few of the beers available for tasting.

Local brewhouse Lengthwise was also in attendance pouring samples for eager tasters.

Along with beer on tap, BJ's handed out free slices of pizza. Some booths handed out hot dogs to go with their beer, while Chamos BBQ offered free tri-tip sandwiches and salsa.

The festival was a great place to gather with friends and peers to try new brews for a good cause.



The Dos Equis booth uses a huge inflatable Dos Equis bottle to attract patrons on April 28 at Stramler Park. MICHAEL PLAZA / THE RIP

Sonya Carrillo, 23, of Bakersfield said she really enjoyed the event and "would love to attend next year and bring more friends. I had no idea it was such a popular event. After trying the various beers, I would have to say that Red Stripe was my favorite. Surprisingly, I had never tasted it before."

For more information on the Active 20-30 Club of Bakersfield, or to become a sponsor of next year's Festival of Beers, visit www.active2030.org.

Money from student cards gets the job done

By TYRONE C. BARNER
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Rip staff writer

Student discount cards are a source of money for the Student Government Association.

And students may purchase the cards online with many benefits to offer to the student such as Target.com, Amtrak.com, Footlocker, and various travel web sites.

Most of the profit is given back to the students from the cards to help represent the students on a statewide level at conferences in places like San Francisco, Sacramento and sometimes in Washington D.C.

According to Tamara Langdon, 27, the current treasurer for SGA, "The \$15 dollar fee is optional and unlike some community colleges where they have a mandatory activity fee of \$15 to \$23 dollars, there's no plan to go to a mandatory fee

here at BC."

The money from the fee is used to pay for workers in the office of the SGA, some of the money is returned to the students in the form of providing free food to the students and other events that are sponsored by the SGA on campus.

Money is also used for the SGA to represent the students at their leadership conferences in places such as San Francisco, Sacramento, and sometimes Washington, D.C.

During Spring Fling it was the money from the student discount cards which bought the laptop and the three Apple iPods that were given away.

Langdon went on to say, "516,000 were given to student groups on campus, like the debate team and the Sife team, to represent students in competition, when the college was not going to pay for them to go to these competitions."

8th annual health fair checks up on BC

By MARYANN KOPP
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Rip staff writer

The Bakersfield College Student Health Center's eighth annual Health and Wellness Fair took place on the BC campus May 2.

With elevator music sounding in the background, more than 30 different vendors and organizations were present to provide the public with everything from free health information via handouts, fliers and displays to raffle prizes and small samples of food products. Teddie Scott of the Bakersfield Pregnancy Center, a charity organization that helps pregnant women by offering maternity clothes, baby clothes, and car seats for free, said that their work does not stop there. "We want to inform women about their choices," said Scott, "and if they plan on having an abortion, we give them an ultrasound first so that they can see how far along they are. Many women get upset be-

cause at an abortion clinic they will not provide ultrasounds."

There were several plastic examples of how a fetus will look after so many weeks into the pregnancy. The Kern County Department of Public Health had several displays emphasizing the negative effects that smoking has on both the smoker's body as well as everyone else's.

With names like "Death of a Lung" and "The Consequences of Smoking," onlookers could view plastic replicas of what a lung with emphysema looks like, how a brain looks after a stroke, what bladder cancer looks like, and the classic lung with cancer. Three HIV educators representing the Community Action Partnership of Kern-HIV Prevention Program were providing information directed mainly at gay, bisexual, lesbian, and transgender individuals.

"Because we live where we do, it can be very difficult to find other people in the community that is not in

a sexually charged environment, like a bar," explained HIV educator Shantell Waldo. "With programs like Mpowerment, we are able to reach out to younger kids and each other and educate about the effects of HIV and how to prevent contracting it."

Mpowerment is a group of gay, bisexual, and transgender men who get together regularly as a means to create a safe environment where they can hang out and be themselves. The founders of Mpowerment, Billie Joe Fox and John Chaplow, were also present. Quality Life Design representative Bren-la Muller, RD, was handing out free gummy bears that were made out of fruits and vegetables, like pomegranate and kale.

"We help teach people about how to take care of their bodies," said Muller. "We are interested in making people aware of cellular health and how to take care of the well being of their cells." The products provided through Quality Life Design are based on glyconutrients and

Muller, having used such products for the past 10 years, can attest to the effectiveness of the products.

"I used to think, as a nutritionist, that eating healthy would provide me with everything I needed," said Muller. "But I would catch every cold that was going around. In about four to six months, I was able to get rid of my allergies and didn't get sick nearly as often as I had prior."

The BC Student Health Center had a table with pamphlets about anxiety, healthy weight, HIV testing, STD facts, emergency contraception, and more. Many different people came to take advantage of the different sources of health education that the Health and Wellness Fair provided.

SPORTS

Softball team wins Regionals

By JOEL R. PARAMO

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Sports editor

May 5 and 6, the Bakersfield College softball team won its first two games, making it unnecessary to play the third to win its best-of-three Southern Regional playoff series and made it to the second round of the Super Regional finals.

In a close game Saturday, Ashleigh Pryor won the game for the Renegades when she scored the winning single with two outs in the bottom of the eighth inning making it a 1-0 win over Fullerton College.

"I hit the winning run in," said Pryor. "I feel really good about it. It was exciting and it all happened really fast."

They continued their fight on Sunday against Fullerton.

In the bottom of the sixth inning Amanda Abbott, Felicia Rojas, Heather Spoon, and Rachele Flores gave BC four straight singles that allowed for two runs.

That led to BC second win over Fullerton, 5-1.

Pitcher Kory Marko made BC his-

tory with a complete game one hitter. She's the second person ever to reach 30 victories for the season.

Head Coach Sandi Taylor feels that the success of last weekend's win is attributed to the fact that they've had time to coordinate the team and feels as though the breaks in between games makes them stronger.

"We played this weekend with lots of internal confidence," said Taylor.

"The ten-day gap we had in between our last game and playoffs gave us time to regroup, reorganize and refocus. We needed that time."

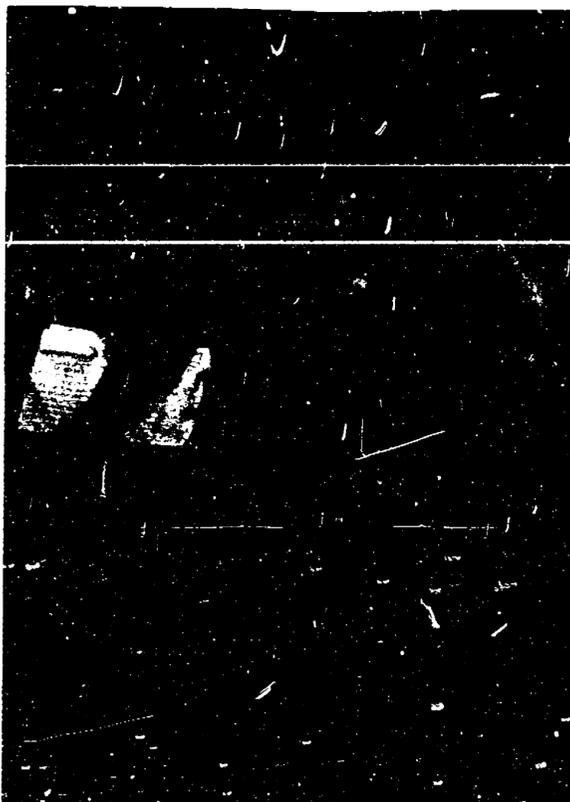
The Southern Regionals were hosted at Bakersfield College May 5 and 6 and in Taylor's opinion were historical for BC.

This coming week, the team will assess Cypress City College and focus on practice.

"We'll focus on their strengths and weaknesses and find out what we can do better," said Taylor.

"We'll mainly look at our strengths cause that something we can control."

The team will play Cypress on their turf May 12 at 2 p.m. and May 13 at noon and 2 p.m. if necessary.



Rachele Flores and Sara Longlee celebrate May 5 after their 1-0 win over Fullerton.

MICHAEL PLAZA / THE RIP

Baseball is over

By TAYLOR GOMBOS

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Rip staff writer

The Bakersfield College baseball team will not be taking a trip to the postseason this year. With an overall record of 24-20 and a 15-9 record in the WSC, the Renegades failed to get into the playoffs.

Head baseball coach Tim Painton explained the power ranking system that is used to determine playoff teams.

Painton explained that there are three percentages that are factored into the ranking system. "Twenty-five percent of that RPI is your teams wins, 50% of it is your opponents' wins, and 25% is your opponents' opponents' wins," Painton said. "When that formula is all added up, you come up with a number. A lot of it is dictated by your opponents' wins and your opponents' opponents' wins. Unfortunately, we didn't fall into that magic number of getting in."

Painton added that this formula was used for the first time this year. He also said that based on the old formula, his team would have probably gotten in.

"Obviously, we are disappointed. I feel like we are one of the top 18 teams in the south. Unfortunately, with the new seeding criteria, it is what it is; we didn't do a good enough

job to get in," Painton said.

The Renegades finished the season strong by winning five of their last eight games including a 9-2 win over Citrus on May 3.

"We played very good defense; we were able to put runs together in multiple innings," said Painton.

"We got an outstanding pitching performance from Kyle Witten. We played very well, but you're not judged on one game; you're judged on the entire season."

Painton said that in a sense, he would say the season was disappointing, but he added, "I saw an awful lot of growth with this ball club. We had a predominantly freshman ball club that had never played at this level," Painton said. "You have to look at other things other than just wins and losses. I felt like we grew as a ball club throughout the course of the season."

Nine players from this year's team were voted to the WSC All-Conference Team. They are: Sophomore first baseman Noe Flores, Freshman outfielder Tyler Garewal, sophomore pitcher Justin Müller, infielders Jeff Burleson and Juan Martinez, freshman outfielder Casey Brown, and freshman pitcher Kyle Witten. Freshmen Brandon Boren, an infielder, and Justin Gordon, a designated hitter, were both honorable mentions for the team.

Large donation to fund new field

By KATHERINE J. WHITE

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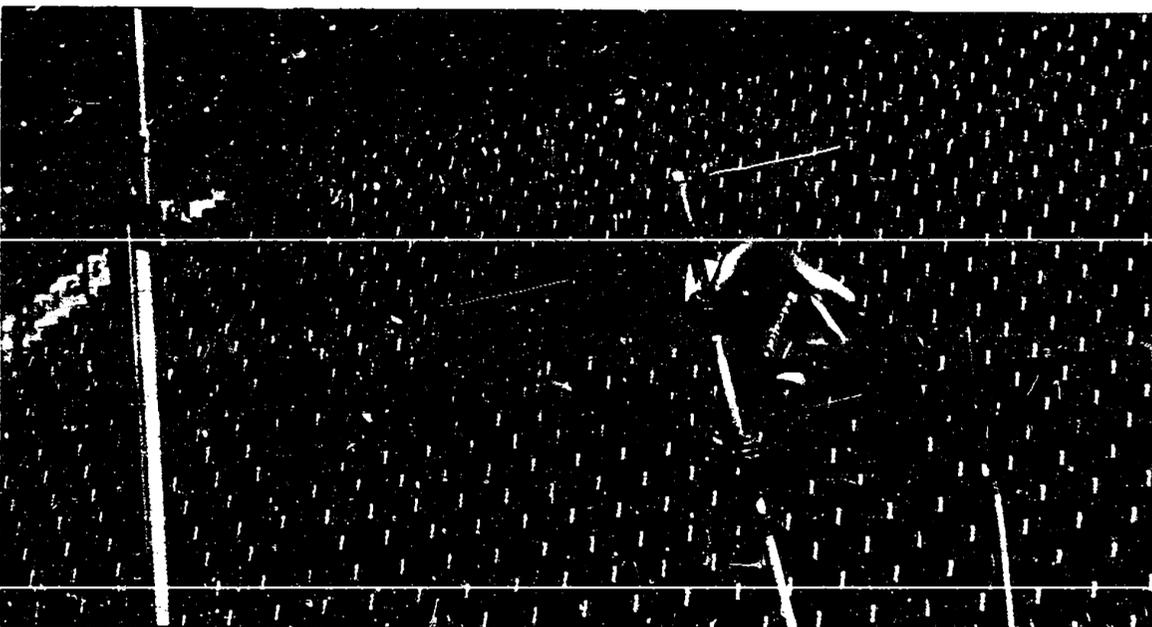
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Melissa Noonchester clears the bar in the pole vault for a Bakersfield College record of 11 feet 1 inch during the WSC finals.

MARCINDA COIL / THE RIP

BC hosts WSC meet, 'Gades place

By CHRIS GARZA

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Rip staff writer

The Western State Conference track finals were held at Memorial Stadium on April 28 as members of the men's and women's track and field team were sent to the Southern California Championship preliminaries. The top six placers are the ones who advance. The preliminaries were held on the May 5 at University California, San Diego and the finals will take place at the same location on May 12.

The women's team won the conference title with a score of 131 and the men came in third with 83 points.

LaShay Bagsby advanced in the shot put, took second in the javelin, placed fourth in the triple jump and placed first in the high jump with her best jump of 5 feet 6 inches.

"I'm trying to set myself to make it to 5-8," said Bagsby, but then expressed that her main goal is 5-11 and that she is going to have to work her way up there. To pass the qualification round, Bagsby was to jump a 5-2 and did so as moved on to the Southern California Finals in three of her events, which were the javelin, the high jump and the shot put.

Anikia Jackson and Shalisa Harris advanced to the preliminaries as well in the high jump, both clearing 4-10.

Jackson qualified for five events and recently placed first in the Southern California heptathlon competition. "It's great," said Jackson, "my coach told me today that my score for the heptathlon was first in the nation."

Despite falling short on the last hurdle in the 100 meters, she automatically qualified with her fifth place position in the state for hurdles and advanced to the finals. Jackson also qualified for the finals in San Diego in the 400 hurdles and the jav-

elin.

Shawna Roundtree placed second in the 1,500 as well as Clarissa Rivera placing fifth at the WSC Championships. Tove Berg of Glendale caught Roundtree as the race was coming to an end. "I felt her coming up on me," said Roundtree, "that's why I kept pulling myself up. I kept doing that on all the laps but then right here (towards the finish line) she caught me." Both girls advanced in the preliminaries and into the finals.

Melissa Noonchester set a school record in pole vaulting at the meet with a leap of 11-1 and a second place.

Andrea Jackson won the 400 meter dash with a time of 1:00.09 seconds. She started off in the fifth lane and by halfway through the race she had developed a great lead and placed first; Madeline Fabri advanced in that same race.

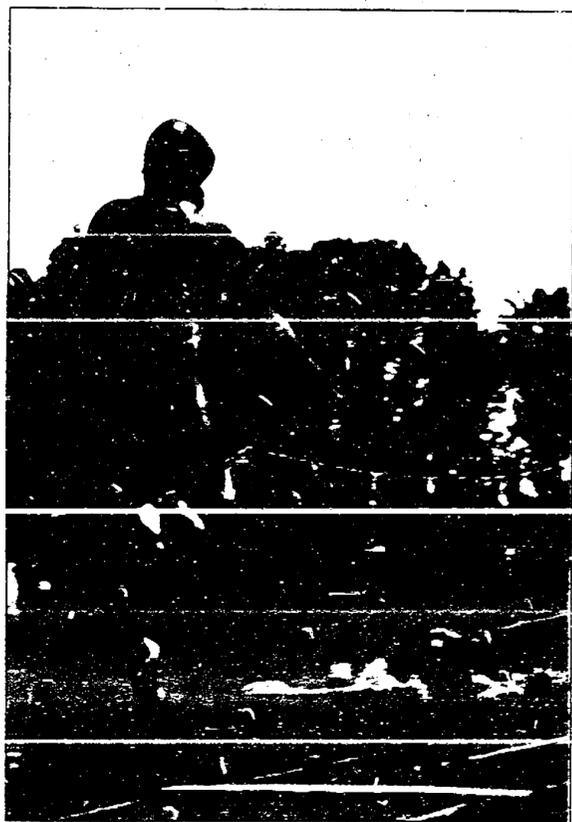
Tyrece Lee placed second for the men in the long jump with a length of 22-7.50 in the WSC and advanced into the finals in San Diego. In the 400 meter dash for the men, Carlington Jones placed fourth with a time of 49.49 and Antrail Snipes placed fifth with a time of 49.55.

"I felt I could have done a lot better," said Jones, "I had it in my head to just get the top six. In the next six weeks I am going to try and make up that ground."

Jones hopes to improve his time to 48 seconds flat.

Kamesha Bowens did not compete in the WSC finals due to an injury during the week prior, but she was automatically qualified to advance and compete in the triple jump and long jump. She had the best jumps in both events leading up to the WSC meet with 17 feet 7 inches in the long jump and 38 feet 2.5 in the triple jump.

"I twisted (the ankle) going down some stairs at the gym after dance



Anikia Jackson performs in the long jump competition at the WSC final preliminaries hosted at BC. She took third place.

MARCINDA COIL / THE RIP

practice," said Bowens.

She had been partaking in extensive rehab that included a mixture of ice and heat as well as constantly working her ankle to gather the necessary strength for the upcoming preliminaries. She said she was going to compete no matter what the circum-

stances may bring.

"If I can't jump on my left, I will be able to jump on my right," said Bowens. "All I have to do is one good jump and save my leg for the next week." Bowens jumped in the preliminaries and advanced to the finals.

Matt Greer makes tennis history for BC

By KATHERINE J. WHITE

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Campus editor

The competition for Bakersfield College's men's tennis team has not seen the last of Matt Greer.

Greer qualified at Southern California Regionals May 3-5 in San Diego to play doubles at state May 10-12, and he also qualified last year to play doubles at state.

This is the first time that a BC men's tennis player qualified twice in a row for state doubles, said BC men's tennis Coach Rob Slaybaugh. Greer's doubles partner is Marc Johns, who is seeded 14th in singles. Last year Greer's partner was Brian Branch, who seeded No. 4 in doubles.

At Southern Cal, Greer and Johns, the only team members to qualify for this tournament, played Grossmont College's doubles Erickson and Howarth with a score of 6-2 and 6-3. In the quarterfinals, Johns and Greer battled doubles partners Almeida and Azevedo and came to a tie.

Johns and Greer at a point retired, accepting a loss from Grossmont.

However, at this point, Johns and Greer had already qualified for state. The primary reason why Johns and Greer bowed out of the match was

due to Johns needing medical attention for tonsillitis. Before leaving to treat his illness, Johns played Frances Yosimoto, the No. 3 seed from College of the Deserts. In the third round, Johns lost to Yosimoto.

According to Slaybaugh, out of eight teams from the conference BC belongs to, six teams from that conference including BC qualified at So. Cal for state.

According to BC's women's tennis coach Gene Lundquist, none of his players qualified for the state challenge, which is taking place May 10-12 at Santa Cruz.

At Southern Cal May 3-5 at Antelope Valley, BC's Jennifer Kelly won the first match against Hillary Tranter of Antelope Valley during a singles play.

No. 1 player Amy Cowen lost in the second round in a singles play.