

Gas leak led to two-day closure of cafeteria

By KYLE BEALL
and GABINO VEGA ROSARIO
Rip staff writers

A gas leak was detected on the Bakersfield College campus by Amber Chiang, director of marketing and public relations, in front of the Campus Center, in the grassy area next to the Student Services Building, Oct. 29, around 11:53 a.m.

"I was actually working with Univision to shoot our new Spanish-language commercial," said Chiang. "I could smell it. It smelled like it was coming up from the dirt, and I was concerned, so I called Public Safety."

According to Chiang, Public Safety responded promptly to the scene. BC's Maintenance and Operations and the Bakersfield Fire Department

responded as well.

The gas was turned off to most of the campus at approximately 3 p.m., after the leak was confirmed and located by PG&E.

While most of the campus was unaffected, the cafeteria was closed Oct. 30-31.

"Because the temperatures have been so mild, it didn't affect any heating or cooling," said Chiang. "It did

affect our food services in the cafeteria area, because they didn't have the gas to have hot water, to wash dishes with."

Chiang said that it affected the chemistry labs, but that they were able to switch to another type of fuel. The athletics department went without hot showers and the pool wasn't heated.

While most BC students were un-

aware of the gas leak, many felt inconvenienced by the cafeteria being closed.

Anastasia Jones said, "I thought it was closed because of Halloween."

Brenda Cruz, business administration major, said, "Yes, it does affect me. I'm starving! I spend from \$5 to \$6 a day in the cafeteria. I can't go anywhere because I don't have any time."

According to Tim Carroll, manager of maintenance and operations, the gas line that was leaking was "abandoned" when the BC library was annexed in the '70s, even though it was still pressurized with gas.

In order to fix the leak, Slater Plumbing Inc. capped the retired gas line where it branches off to the cafeteria.

Repairs were completed Oct. 31.

THE AFTERMATH



After weeks of battling wildfires in Southern California, firefighters distributed American flags to the houses that were burned in Modjeska Canyon, Orange County, during the Santiago Canyon Fires. Right: The red sky on Oct. 29 is an example of how the smoke from the fires affected Bakersfield's already polluted atmosphere.

For full wildfire coverage, see *The Plug* on page 9

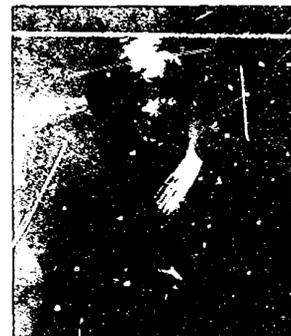
Photo above: Erik Aguilar
Photo right: Marcinda Coil / The Rip



Hans Einstein talks Valley Fever

■ Cousin of Albert Einstein shares his expertise with BC students and faculty in the Fireside Room.

By KATHERINE J. WHITE
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Sports editor



ERIK AGUILAR / THE RIP

Hans Einstein speaks in the Fireside Room at BC Oct. 24.

Coccidioidomycosis. It's also known as Valley Fever, which is caused by *Coccidioides immitis*, a soil-dwelling fungus resembling mildew or yeast.

Hans E. Einstein, professor of clinical medicine, emeritus, for the University of Southern California, lectured in Bakersfield College's Fireside Room Oct. 24 as a continued part of BC's Eminent Speakers series.

He said that Coccidioidomycosis is often called "Cocci" for short and is also known as Posada-Wernicke's disease, desert fever, San Joaquin fever, desert rheumatism, California's disease and coccidioidal granuloma.

The sagacious, yet spry and elfish-looking elderly man, cousin to Albert Einstein, and chairman of medicine at Kern Medical Center, showed a slide-rendered 19th-century photo of a swollen-faced, cauliflower-skinned Argentine soldier who was the first recorded victim of the disease. Einstein also showed a slide of the first American case, which occurred in 1896. The lesion-ridden afflicted man was a Portuguese fisherman working in the San Francisco Bay area.

"No, this is not Mike Stepanovich's high school graduation picture," Einstein quipped, referring to the new director for the BC Foundation who introduced him. The audience chuckled.

Wearing a blue jacket, gray pants and strangely incongruous running shoes, Berlin-born Einstein described *Coccidioides immitis* as a fungus or mold and member of the mushroom family, which grows best in areas such as Arizona, New Mexico, west Texas, parts of central America, Ar-

gentina, northwest Mexico, California's San Joaquin Valley, and other areas with dry weather and sandy soils. The Sahara, Gobi and Negev deserts are fertile areas as well. Most recently, Brazil has experienced the growth of that particular fungus. Einstein mentioned that if an area contains creosote bushes, then that is a Valley Fever-prone area.

According to Einstein, the mold develops hyphae with chains of arthroconidia, and winds disperse the arthrospores, which are inhaled by vulnerable people. From within the lungs, the arthroconidia soon begins the parasitic stage and forms spherules. According to Einstein, each spherule has within it endospores, which soon burst and then release more endospores. A 10-14-day incubation period starts before symptoms appear.

After the incubation period, sufferers experience coughing fits, fevers, chills and chest pains. As the condition worsens, the afflicted individual experiences myalgia, pleural effusion and meningismus.

Einstein showed a slide of a chest X-ray with a cloudy area indicating infection as well as an enlargement of the lymph nodes. Einstein remarked that the progression of the disease resembles tuberculosis.

The chest in the X-ray belonged to See EINSTEIN, Page 3

Coach receives gift of three at UCLA

By LEANNE CAVE
Special to the Rip

Bakersfield College assistant football coach Carl Dean and his wife, Christy, are parents of three little girls — all born at the same time.

The triplets, Sophie, Mia and Gracie, were born on Oct. 26 at 11:40 p.m. at the UCLA Medical Center.

The event happened about 12 hours before the Renegades were scheduled to take on the L.A. West Oilers in Anaheim City.

Luckily for Dean, one football game was just five or six miles away so he was able to meet the team and help guide it to a 36-0

victory over the Oilers. Dean said he will not show these pictures to his family about their daughters.

"They are all healthy, and we can't wait to get them home," Dean said.

The babies had to remain at UCLA Medical Center for 30 to 45 days after birth for safety precautions.

"Christy has been driving back and forth to UCLA daily to check on them and visit with them," Dean said.

The team was excited for the Dean family as well.

"He was real excited that he had three little girls," Ben Estill, BC running back said.

Dean said that Christy already has an idea of what the girls might like to do.

Day of the Dead celebrated at BC

By MASYANN KOPP
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Rip staff writer

The Bakersfield College MAIZE Club brought the celebration of the Dia de Los Muertos to the BC campus from Oct. 29-Nov. 2.

Several altars were set up at the Campus Center and were decorated with pictures, candles, flowers, herbs, food, water, stuffed animals, and other relics to celebrate the departed.

Signs were displayed on some of the tables, educating passersby on what was on display. As one part stated, "Contrary to popular opinion, this holiday celebrates the lives of those who have passed on. This is a day of happiness, not one of sorrow."

"MAIZE's emphasis is on traditional, pre-Columbian events, like Dia de Los Muertos," said MAIZE club member Jesse Ibarra. "What we're honoring is a day that goes back to pre-Columbian history, before the Roman Catholic church had

even stepped foot into the Americas. Back when, even before the Aztecs, the people would hold several days to remember their dead."

According to Ibarra, altars would be constructed and decorated with the belongings of ancestors to the respective families.

Part of the belief was that the offerings laid out would be enjoyed by the spirits who were being honored, whether it was by partaking in the food and drink offerings or others.

M.E.Ch.A. secretary Eva Fuentes explained that she makes food offerings at her Dia de Los Muertos altar at home and that this is her second year doing so.

"I started celebrating el Dia de Los Muertos just last year because, before then, I didn't know too much about it," said Fuentes.

"I had saw some things about the holiday on TV, and in books, and it fascinated me, so I decided to follow the tradition," Fuentes continued. "I just put a Native-American twist on

See DAY OF THE DEAD, Page 3

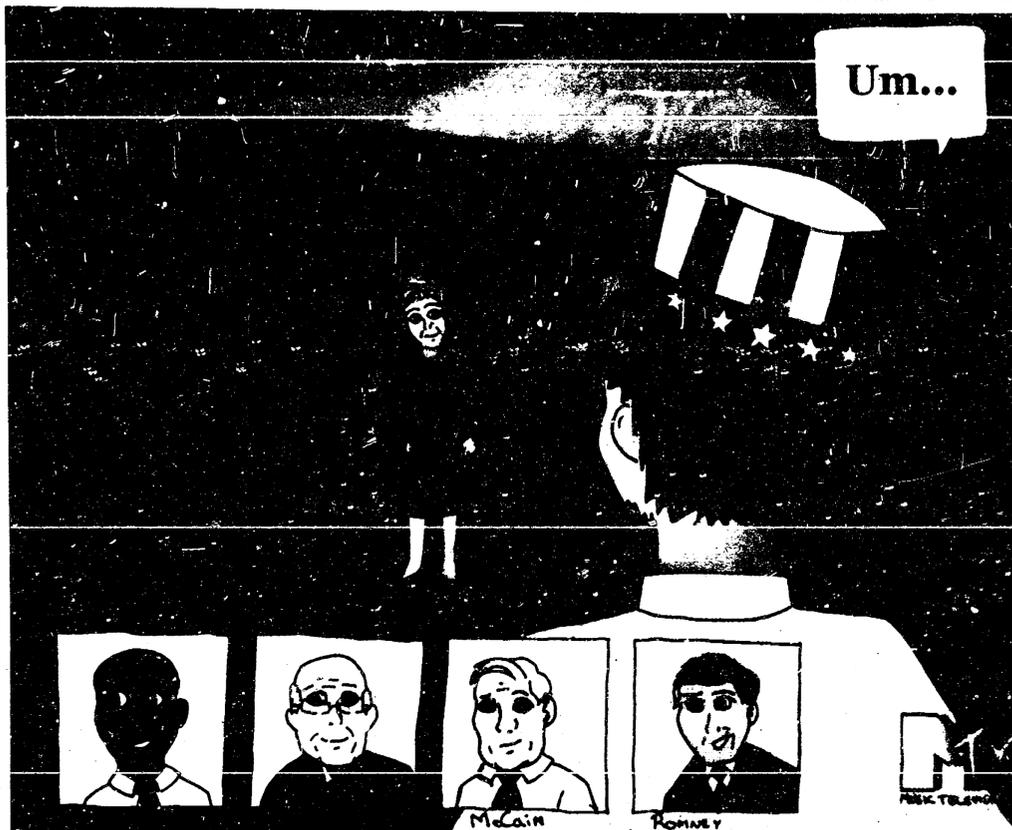


LISA VARGAS / THE RIP

Ana Vega, Chicano studies major, lights candles on the M.E.Ch.A. Day of the Dead altar, to honor children on Oct. 31.

NEWS

POLITICAL CAMPAIGN 2008



ALLY ARMSTRONG / THE RIP

Presidential hopefuls and media

By MARCINDA COIL
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Features editor

Jay Leno, Steven Colbert, David Letterman, and Conan O'Brien, besides humor, have another thing in common: They interview presidential candidates.

Though the amount of candidates can be overwhelming, Bakersfield College political science professor Steven Holmes believes that these candidates should appear on television talk shows.

"I think it gives our society a new perspective on candidates," said Holmes. "In the sense that it gives us an opportunity to see that in many cases they are much like ourselves in terms of having an interest in movies, in books, in television shows."

According to Washington Post reporter Howard Kurtz, many of the presidential candidates are using television to further their votes; however, they carefully choose which

stations to appear on. Though Rudy Giuliani, Hillary Clinton, and John Edwards are playing it safe, Mitt Romney, John McCain, and others are nabbing television spots left and right.

However, several BC students claimed that they see Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama most often on television.

"What I think most candidates understand at this point is that they're selling themselves to society," said Holmes, "much like any manufacturer sells a product that they produce to society."

According to Holmes, presidential candidates appearing on television is not new. Since the 1960s, advancement of television has offered itself more to the masses, and candidates are taking advantage.

"The new approach is reminiscent of the 1992 campaign, when it was considered radical for presidential candidates to go on MTV, Larry King, and Arsenio Hall, and there was much teeth-gnashing about the bypassing of

the traditional media," said Kurtz. Some BC students believe that these appearances are beneficial to the community as well as to the candidates themselves.

"I think it's great that they are doing this," said English major Salvador Rodriguez, 21. "They get their point across better and educate more people."

"The more people that know who they are and what they stand for, the more potential voters," said English/theater major Ashley Wentworth, 20. "I'm fine with that."

According to Holmes, infotainment allows us to see the human side of politicians that was not available during the reigns of Eisenhower and Truman. "They are political images, only and not necessarily human images... We didn't know a lot about them."

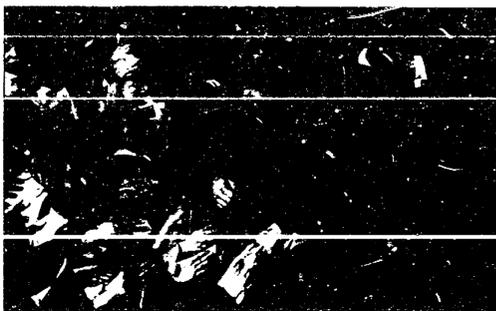
Though human images are a benefit to candidates, according to Holmes, voters should look beyond mere human images. "I think creating the human side of the candidate might draw more people to participate

"What I think most candidates understand is that they're selling themselves to society, much like any manufacturer..."

—Steven Holmes,
Political science professor

in the system," said Holmes. However, Holmes added, "It wouldn't necessarily justify that they should just go out and vote because they liked what the guy did on Oprah, or what the guy did on Jay Leno... So, I think that you have to find a balance."

English major Savanna Andrasian, 20, believes that television also allows voters to realize the issues that each candidate supports. According to psychology major Rose Madera, 34, "I think it's good. It's just another way to hear their [candidates] views."



ERIK AGUILAR / THE RIP

Presidential hopeful Hillary Rodham Clinton shakes hands with students after giving a speech at Fresno High School in Fresno, California, Oct. 22.

vertising in "microtargeting," or creating targeted political advertising, which is directly mailed to a specific group of people and based on demographic information, in a manner similar to mass-market segmentation.

"Technology has had a tremendous affect in shaping the way political campaigns are conducted today," according to Rodriguez. Politicians now have Web sites, where they can promote themselves and generate public interest in their proposals.

One campaign advertising strategy politicians use, is to bash the opposing candidate while promoting themselves, a technique pejoratively referred to as "mudslinging," according to dictionary.com.

"Mudslinging" is good for pointing out the shortcomings of a candidate that normally wouldn't be disseminated, but may be information contained in the candidates' image.

Political campaigns in the United States during the 19th century paved the way for mass campaigning. It developed the concept of the campaign team, then called an "army," promotional techniques and internal campaign finance.

The first modern campaign tour is considered to be the Midwestern Campaign of 1880, a series of speeches by United Kingdom Prime Minister William Gladstone about the mistreatment of the Bulgarian people by Ottoman Turks, according to historyhome.co.uk.

New public phone service

By CRYSTAL ROBERTS
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Rip staff writer

Dialing 211, a new free telephone service that went into effect Oct. 1, provides callers with information about non-profit and government organizations to people.

"It's a referral for general services," said a 211 operator, who wasn't authorized to release her name.

The operator explained that people can call 211 for many different reasons, including rental assistance, referral for food banks and utility assistance. "It's to help the community, mostly low-income," said the operator.

Not only is 211 used to find out information about things like how to find a job, apply for food stamps, or register to vote, it also can be used for people who are disaster victims looking for housing, food, and family members.

According to the Community Action Partnership of Kern, 26 states have access to 211 services and the remaining states are in the process of planning a 211 service.

211 played an important role after the 9/11 attack in Connecticut. The 211 system assisted people who wanted to donate and volunteer and also handled calls for the besieged Red Cross, as explained by the CAPK.

The service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The operator explained that they take the calls locally from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and then calls get transferred to Ventura where they take calls from 5 p.m. to 8 a.m.

"We receive 115-250 calls per day," said the operator, "and most calls come during the middle or the end of the month. The beginning of the month is slow."

The operator explained that the service is currently available in various counties, including Orange County, L.A. County, San Francisco County, Ventura County and many others.

Rip takes general excellence at JACC

The Renegade Rip, Bakersfield College's student newspaper, earned general excellence in the region at the Journalism Association of Community Colleges Southern California Regional last weekend at Cal State-Fullerton.

The Rip tied with Saddleback College for the top score among the 28 newspapers that entered the general excellence category, which was judged by professional journalists. The judging is based on a 110-point system that studies each phase of a newspaper — content, photography, page design and advertising. The Rip and Saddleback each scored 100 points, the only papers to do so.

The Rip is one of the few papers that publishes once every two weeks during the fall and spring semesters. It publishes 4,000 copies per issue.

The Rip was also awarded general excellence for its online product, which can be viewed at therip.com.

The regional conference drew approximately 400 student journalists from community colleges in Southern California. The conference consisted of workshops focusing on print journalism, multimedia and broadcasting, as well as on-the-spot contests designed to test students in professional journalistic situations.

In on-the-spot competition, the Rip's Marcinda Coil took second place in the page design/news judgment category; Kyle Beall and Ally Andrasian were awarded an honorable mention in opinion writing; and Anna Robledo earned special recognition for her role as editor-in-chief of the Rip.

BC colloquium honors justice

By MARCINDA COIL
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Features editor

Bakersfield College's faculty, staff and administrators gathered in the Fireside Room on Oct. 26 for coffee, food and to honor a faculty member: criminal justice professor Peggy DeStefano.

Formerly known as NL Faculty Seminar Series, the colloquium was created a couple of years ago in order to give praise to scholarly accomplishments.

"This event is solely intended to honor our faculty," said Michael McNellis, chair of the Norman Levan Faculty Colloquium Steering Committee. "We love our students, but we need our space."

DeStefano's accomplishment, a lecture called Deconstructing the Path to Wrongful Convictions, has been in the making for six months and was delivered at the colloquium.

After acknowledging the many staff, including Levan, who attended the event, DeStefano demonstrated through PowerPoint and her hands how serious an issue wrongful convictions is, and that it is a problem that needs to be solved.

According to a judge, DeStefano explained, if only one percent of the population were wrongfully convicted, tens of thousands of innocent people would still be spending their days in prison.

For a class project, journalism students were assigned to re-investigate cases. The project resulted in ten exonerations.

Though DNA has come a long way in keeping innocent people out from behind bars, according to DeStefano, DNA is usually only useful in mur-

der, rape or any crime involving the suspect leaving DNA behind. DNA only accounts for a small percentage. "We really are only getting a glimpse," she said.

According to DeStefano, evidence collecting, witnesses, jailhouse informants, interrogations, and counsel can all be defective and result in wrongful convictions.

"Sometimes evidence collected is never subjected to testing," said DeStefano. Because there often is media pressure, there is police pressure. Cops often believe that if they don't find a suspect pool within 48 hours, they may never solve the case, she said.

Fingerprinting can also be a problem. One case involved a man who approached police about a friend's murder.

He believed that he could be of assistance; however, he voluntarily submitted a handprint in order to satisfy investigators, which ultimately put him behind bars for a crime he did not commit. He spent many years in prison until his prints were checked again, and it was found to not be a match.

"It really is more of an art than a science," said DeStefano.

DeStefano talked of many past and recent cases involving wrongful convictions associated with unreliable informants, shaky memories of witnesses, incompetent interrogations, and penniless lawyers.

"There's never simply just one reason," DeStefano said.

Though there are many faults to the legal system, according to DeStefano, there are solutions; some of which are being applied in some states.

NEWS

EINSTEIN: Slides show Valley Fever devastations



MARCINDA COIL / THE RIP

BC honors Peggy DeStefano, who lectured Oct. 26 about the problems of wrongful convictions.

Among those solutions are "double blind line-ups" (the line-up administrator does not know who the suspect is), complete recording of interrogations, DNA data banking and preservation of evidence.

"Even if the occasional guilty person slips through the noose," said DeStefano, it is worth it to apply these measures.

Some states provide compensation if a person is wrongfully convicted; however, most lose out on their education and training because they spent so much time behind bars.

According to DeStefano, 12 years is the average amount of time an innocent person is in prison before they are exonerated.

However, according to the concluding film, "A Celebration of Innocence," the average seemed to be about 26 years. The six-minute film showed person after person wrongfully convicted.

According to DeStefano, "An injustice to one is an injustice to all."

Continued from Page 1
to a twenty-seven-year-old male who worked in Valley Fever-prone Maricopa at a kitty-litter plant who eventually died of the fever. Einstein also showed a slide of a young female in an advanced state of the disease with a large cavity in her lungs. During the course of the lecture, Einstein mentioned that African Americans are currently the group most often afflicted with the most serious cases of the disease. More than 7,000 Coccidioidomycosis cases strike the U.S. a year, and yearly treatment costs typically go over \$60 million.

According to Einstein, to ascertain if a patient has the disease, skin and serologic tests can be performed as well as histologic studies of biopsy specimens taken from the skin and lungs in cases in which patients are coughing up blood.

Cultures derived from sputum (saliva) pus and body fluids can also be used as a basis for diagnosis, according to Einstein. Skin, bones, joints, knees and the spine are the areas usually infected.

An infection in the brain was usually 100 percent fatal until the 1950s. Einstein said that he has never seen a case of the fever infecting the intestines. According to Einstein, 60 percent of Valley Fever sufferers may think that they only have a mild form

of a flu or a cold, and 40 percent become sick enough to need medical care. Five to ten percent are gravely ill patients who often wind up with scars on their lungs. For the seriously afflicted, the symptoms resemble pneumonia. The cases in which the disease traversed from the lungs to the bloodstream to the brain usually ended in death. A prolonged period of moderate discomfort is common in the initial stages of the progression of the disease, according to Einstein.

Einstein said that treatments include the use of the drugs Amphotericin B (fungizone), Liposomal B (AmBisome) Micronazoles (Monistat) under the category of Imidazoles as well as Amphotericin B, although this drug is not particularly "user-friendly," as Einstein puts it, because it creates abscesses.

Einstein admitted that the research for a Valley Fever vaccine has not been very extensive, and it amounts to a "small pimple on the fanny of progress," he said.

Fortunately, 53 percent of Kern County residents who have endured Valley Fever are now immune to the disease, according to Einstein.

In fact, Einstein said that all those who have gotten Valley Fever have developed immunity. He added that the disease is never transmitted from person to person. Nevertheless, a

vacine must be speedily developed, he said. Unfortunately, throughout many decades, other diseases such as polio have received much publicity and funds, Einstein admitted. "This has often happened because some famous person brought attention to a particular disease through publicity or by actually contracting a particular disease.

"Franklin Roosevelt got polio. That's why there's a vaccine for it," Einstein said. "I used to pray that Richard Nixon, or Ronald Reagan, or somebody like that would get Valley Fever, and then there would be a vaccine for that. If Briney Spears got Valley Fever, there would be a Valley Fever vaccine," Einstein said. The audience laughed.

Einstein, who escaped in the 1930s from the Nazis along with his mother and sister to the Netherlands, came to the U.S. as an exchange student and remained to go to medical school.

Einstein served in the US Army's Berlin Airlift mission during the 1940s. After practicing medicine in New York and serving in the New York National Guard, Einstein came to Bakersfield. Einstein helps run a specialty clinic every Tuesday afternoon at Kern Medical Center along with Dr. Royce Janson, fellow chairman of medicine at KMC.

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CAMPUS

Wildfires bring the BC debate team home early

By KYLE BEALL
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Copy editor

Despite complications due to the Southern California wildfires, Bakersfield College's debate team won two awards at its first debate tournament of the school year, Oct. 19-21, hosted at Pepperdine University.

The three-day tournament was cut

short on the last day. The main road to the university was closed because of the fire.

According to the debate team's coach, communication instructor Michael Korok, they were glad to leave while they had the chance. "We understood the Grapevine was fine," said Korok. "We saw the Cascade fire on the way home. It wasn't really that bad. It didn't interfere with the trip home."

"We didn't exactly experience the fire," said Josiah Haut, a junior varsity debater. "Basically, we woke up and learned there's no tournament. It was kind of disappointing. You want to watch the final rounds, watch the best teams and see what makes them so good."

Although they didn't clear into the final round, Mitch Carpenter won the second speaker award, and Kim Lechteck won the fifth speaker award.

"It's practice for the next tournament. We should be able to take what we've learned here ... and overcome those other teams in the next tournament."

Last year, the BC debate team won the California State Championship in both the novice and junior varsity divisions.

Korok said that they have a solid team this year, and that they are excited.

"We have most of that team back, and a couple new folks who are promising," said Korok. "They work hard, and they are very talented kids."

Haut said, "I think it's good (this year's team); it's a little bit larger than last year. We've got some new people on the team. Unfortunately, we lost some of the old people. I think we've got a good chance of winning some awards this year."

Their next planned meet will be at Cal State Fullerton Jan. 2-4.

"It's one of the largest tournaments in California," said Korok.

The National Championship competition will begin in April 2009.

Book festival draws big crowd

Bakersfield Californian third annual Festival of Books brings authors, artists, publishers and crowd to BC.

By KELLY ARDIS
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Rip staff writer

Bakersfield College was the host of the third annual Bakersfield Californian Festival of Books Nov. 3. Organized by Donna Hylton, the executive director of the Kern Adult Literacy Council, the festival's proceeds benefited the KALC.

Regarding this year's turnout, Hylton said, "It is huge. It's wonderful. We raised \$32,000 last year, and we'll raise more this year."

Featured guests included authors J.A. Jance, Rebecca Buckley, Myron Uhlberg and Cherie Zendarski, as well as illustrator Gita Lloyd. Also at the festival were mini Barnes & Noble and Russo's Books stores, tables with information regarding the KALC and representatives from several publishers. After each guest spoke, they made themselves available for autographs.

In her presentation, Jance explained that she was not allowed in the creative writing class at the University of Arizona. However, her husband at the time was.

"Because I wasn't allowed in the class, I didn't know that some things should be left out of books. My first book was very long," said Jance, whose 37th book will be available this December.

When Lloyd took the stage, she explained the process of illustrating children's books and showed some rough illustrations from a recent "Clifford the Big Red Dog" book.

Jance offered some advice to as-

piring authors.

"Write. Everyday. A writer is someone who writes today," she said. "You have to go through life paying attention to life around you."

During her speech, she also said, "Finding someone you don't like makes it a lot easier to write a book."

At the end of the festival, attendees had the chance to participate in an auction for an autographed copy of Jance's upcoming book "Hand of Evil," available Dec. 18.

Right: Illustrator Gita Lloyd shows audience members her thumbnail drawings at the Festival of Books on Saturday, Nov. 3. Below: Author J.A. Jance takes the stage at the third annual Festival of Books.

PHOTOS BY KELLY ARDIS / THE RIP



Programs to help students in many different ways

By STEVEN C. VOGEL
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Rip staff writer

Bakersfield College students choose to further their education for a variety of reasons, and they represent a number of ethnic and economical backgrounds.

CalWorks. Extended Opportunity Program and Services and the Cooperative Agencies Resources for Education program both aim to assist students in need of a helping hand.

"We want to assist with all areas of their (BC students) life. If they have issues at home, they will have issues at school. Because we want our stu-

dents to be successful, we need to take steps to break down those barriers," said Antonio Alfaro, BC CalWorks job development specialist.

CalWorks is funded by the Department of Human Services, while CARE funding is provided by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office and administered by EO/PS.

According to Alfaro, in order to be eligible for the CalWorks program you must be receiving CalWorks benefits from the Kern County Department of Human Services, in full compliance with DHS and Welfare to Work Plan and be enrolled and attending classes at BC.

EOPS department assistant Tracy Shannon added that students enrolled in the CalWorks program go through many steps in order to obtain acceptance for need-based assistance.

"These students truly amaze me... They have to jump through so many hoops in order to get much-needed help as they try to take steps to better their lives," said Shannon.

CalWorks offers childcare referrals, financial aid advising, career development and leadership workshops, off-campus job placement, on-campus work-study programs, classes in basic reading, math, English, and job training leading toward employment and educational ad-

ancements.

In contrast, the CARE program offers peer mentoring, childcare assistance, referrals for tutoring services and parenting classes for single-parent families.

CARE eligibility is determined by a number of factors, including the receipt of welfare assistance, California residency, eligibility for and awarded financial aid, be eligible for EOPS, and have yet to complete 70 units of coursework.

EOPS staff members believe that participation in the various programs offered at BC helps to improve the lives of the students they serve and better their chances of success at the college level.

"The most difficult thing you can do is ask for help. It can be hard to even get out of bed in the morning and choose to carry on. This program truly changes the way you live, and what your future looks like," said Shannon.

According to a brochure provided by EOPS, "(CARE) exists to provide child care grants and services for full-time, single-parent students who are on Temporary Assistance for Needy Families."

For additional information on CalWorks, CARE and EOPS, visit the EOPS office located on the second floor of the student services building. The office is open Monday-Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Friday from 8 a.m. until noon. CalWorks may also be reached by phone at 395-4047, CARE at 395-4351 and EOPS at 395-4351.

Shannon further emphasized that it is imperative that needy students at BC be provided with adequate support while they attempt to improve their lives.

"Our faculty and the community need to be more supportive of what these students are doing. They are doing amazing things and trying to change the way they live, so they don't have to be dependant on others the rest of their lives," said Shannon.

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Costume class gives hands-on experience

Although it is not officially in the catalog, BC currently has a costume design class that is offered through the Theater Department, under the technical theater lab.

In the technical theater lab, students will have the opportunity to either learn theater setup such as lighting, sound, and special effects. Or, students can become costumers for BC's upcoming plays.

Brinkley, who is the instructor for the costume design class, said, "This class is a lot of fun. It's not the traditional class with a lecture and text; it's more hands-on. We use movies and art for reference."

The patterns that are used for the costumes come from books.

"We blow up the pictures and take the techniques from the book," said Brinkley.

Although that is how some patterns are made, there are times when the costume is made completely from scratch, and the material is draped and tailored for the actor.

Brinkley stated that the students who are in the class have never sewed before, so they are learning as they go.

"By the time they finish with the class, I would want them to learn how to sew by hand and machine; they can sew like a dress or shirt," Brinkley said.

The class currently has six students involved in costume design.

Along with learning how to sew the costumes together, they also learn how to get actors ready for the show, and change their dress for the next scene.

Students who are interested in enrolling in this class for next semester can sign up through THEA B28.

"Theater is a combination of a lot of things. If you like math, physics, or science, you can do set design."

— Kat Brinkley, BC costume design professor

are the "fearless wardrobe crew!" Brinkley said she would love to have more people in the class, so that it can become an official class, and students can learn wig making, mask making, costuming, and basic sewing.

Students who are interested in enrolling in this class for next semester can sign up through THEA B28.

OPINION

STAFF EDITORIAL

Raise is a slap in face to students

College administrators in the California State University system continue to improve their own quality of life while forcing hard-working students to foot the bill.

On Sept. 19, the CSU Board of Trustees voted to raise executive salaries 11.8 percent after approving a seven-percent undergraduate rate hike earlier this year that increased annual tuition to approximately \$7,300.

Cal State-Bakersfield president Horace Mitchell was among the 22 CSU presidents to benefit from the raise, receiving an additional \$26,000 per year to raise his salary from \$259,010 to \$285,000, according to the Bakersfield Californian. Mitchell also receives an additional \$50,000 per year for housing and a \$12,000 per year car allowance. The highest-paid CSU president is at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and receives a salary of \$328,209.

How can people that claim to represent the best interests of college students and faculty be so selfish? Why do they need so much more money anyway? With all of the money being spent on perks like free cars and housing, all of that extra scratch becomes disposable income.

Essentially, the money that a CSUB student could have spent on buying books or paying for the rent is instead being used by Mitchell for adding a couple zeros on his entertainment budget.

CSU trustees argue that rate increases are necessary to entice quality administrators from other states to the CSU system. They claim that other states with higher tuitions pay administrators more, so they must keep up with the trend.

The hole in that logic is that administrators aren't quality administrators if all that motivates them to come to a CSU is the paycheck. The student body and the quality of the programs offered at the school should play a larger part in their decision.

The California Faculty Association, a labor union for faculty in the CSU system, decided that they had enough and put forth AB 1413, a bill that would regulate CSU compensation proceedings. Passed by both houses of the state legislature, AB 1413 was vetoed by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger Oct. 12.

While Gov. Schwarzenegger has been supportive of community colleges, he has managed to turn his back on four-year universities in California with this veto. His pro-community-college platform fits into a gallow for transfer students after just two years.

Students at four-year institutions should be given rare opportunities to voice their opinions on decisions affecting them rather than having them arbitrated by a group of overpaid pencil pushers.

Carmel justified in testing students

By KYLE BEALL
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Copy editor

Alcohol and drug testing in public schools has become a hot issue. Recently, Carmel High School in Carmel, Ind., made headlines when school administrators decided to test all of their students who attend their high school football games, according to an article published in The Indianapolis Star.

While I agree with the school's decision on merit, because high school students shouldn't be drinking anyway, I feel their motives are misplaced.

CHS Principal John Williams "emphasized that the school isn't expanding its alcohol testing to football games because of an increase in underage drinking."

OK, so why are they now testing the students for alcohol? According to the article, it's a matter of simply possessing the technology.

While I really want to argue against the school's actions and discuss right-to-privacy, well, I just can't. The truth is that schools are liable and responsible for students on their way to, during, and leaving any school activities. This means that it is not only permissible for schools to monitor underage drinking, but they are negligent if they don't.

Why would anyone complain about being tested for something that they aren't supposed to be doing anyway? It's illegal, but we all know that people are doing it.

So I applaud Carmel High School for taking the initiative regarding underage drinking, but what about drug use and smoking?

While the U.S. Supreme Court upheld that public schools are allowed to drug test their students in 2002, state laws are still applicable, and each state is different.

The Indiana Court of Appeals ruled that it's within their state constitution to permit schools to test students for drugs and alcohol but not for nicotine.

This selective exercise in prohibition is deplorable. While cigarettes are causing more health problems and killing people, it's somehow more important to keep students from watching a football game with a buzz. What message does this send to underage smokers?

Let's get our priorities straight.

FEMA put itself in a bad light

They managed to do a good job in responding to the wildfires, but their fake press conference is a mockery to government organizations.

By JOEL R. PARAMO
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News editor

The Federal Emergency Management Agency has done it yet again after its lack of support to those who suffered from Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

Their response to the California wildfires tested their capability to respond quickly and efficiently, supporting those people in distress.

Although even after the fires were controlled and after closing the relief distribution center located at Moffett Field, they managed to embarrass themselves yet again in front of the whole country, staging a fake press conference.

On Oct. 23, FEMA gave press a 15-minute notice to a conference disabling any real reporters to attend.

FEMA Deputy Administrator Harvey Johnson continued to play along with the staged conference where FEMA employees were actually playing the reporters.

They asked soft, open-ended questions that were easy for Johnson to talk about, giving themselves a thumbs up for their efforts during this disaster.

According to the Washington Post, they did it because an agency was providing a live video feed to American television networks.

The conference was described as "inexcusable and offensive" by a spokesperson for Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff. According to USA Today, "White House press secretary Dana Perino said it was not appropriate that the questions were posed by agency staffers instead of reporters. FEMA was responsible for the 'error in judgment,' she said, adding that the White House did not know about it beforehand and did not condone it."

This abomination to ethical standards was unneeded for, no matter how important FEMA felt it was to get the press conference aired when it was.

"Our intent was to provide useful information and be responsive to the many questions we have received," said Johnson.

However, they should have postponed or canceled this press conference, or lack thereof, as a newsletter or general update on the situation would have sufficed.

Considering FEMA did much better work with California than they did during Katrina, they should have waited for the country to pat them on the backs instead of giving themselves a pat on the back.

FEMA was created to coordinate a response to disasters.

They didn't do what they were made for in 2005, but they did what they could this time around. Unfortunately for them, they've ended up in another disaster of their own.

FEMA has proved to be useless to this country. Perhaps the federal funds going into this organization could be better used in some other form.

It seems as though non-federally funded organizations help out more in times of distress than our own government. For example, The American Red Cross always seems to help just a little bit more, providing everything from food and shelter to mental health care.

It's time to put an end to this presidential agency created in 1979 and for the government to take a look at what other future emergency relief agencies can be of use.



ALLY ARMSTRONG/THE RIP

Bakersfield not keeping up with growing population

By CRYSTAL ROBERTS
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Rip staff writer

Kern County needs to do more work to keep up with its growing population.

Bakersfield is growing at a rapid pace along with other towns that make up Kern County. According to the Kern Economic Development Cooperation's Website, Kern County is home to 779,869 residents and reports that by the year 2012, the population will reach 835,297. There are approximately 456,600 people who live in metropolitan Bakersfield, which include smaller cities immediately surrounding Bakersfield. With all of the new residents that are coming to our county and cities, Bakersfield should be flourishing with new developments.

It is true that Bakersfield has indeed been building for the newcomers, but they're not building fast enough. We have tons of new tract homes, new schools, plenty of Starbucks, and retail businesses, but still there are many things that Bakers-

field lacks.

Because Bakersfield and Kern County are growing at such a rapid pace, there should be more dining opportunities. Bakersfield has expanded its dining and opened newer restaurants like The Elephant Bar, BJ's, and California Pizza Kitchen, but Bakersfield needs to offer more new dining in more areas.

The northeast side of Bakersfield is becoming the home for new residents, but there is a lack of new construction going on in that area. There are many new homes and housing developments, such as City in the Hills, being built, yet the nearest grocery store is miles and miles away.

Retail development has improved with the new upscale stores in the Valley Plaza like BEBE, Sephora, and a Lucky Brand store, but what about the other mall? At the mall everyone has forgotten about, the East Hills Mall, there are numerous empty lots and hardly any stores to shop from. There is a market on the east side of Bakersfield that is not being catered to.

Highway construction is also moving slowly. With re-paving roads and the installing of more traffic lights, it seems that the city and county are moving toward building a better Bakersfield, but again, they are not moving at a fast enough pace. The traffic is becoming very congested, and there aren't enough lanes for all of the cars.

It is no doubt that Bakersfield is transitioning from a small town to a small city, but at the rate the city is growing, the development needs to grow at a faster pace in all areas.

'GADE FEEDBACK

How do you study for a difficult test?

- Daisy Puente, undeclared: "Make a study guide."
- Marilyn Rizo, architecture: "Study my notes."
- Clay Davis, child development: "Do an outline of a chapter and eat my Wheaties."
- Daniel Iye, child development: "Work out while studying."
- Jesus Guerra, business administration: "I watch TV and loosen up."
- Konrad Dahl, nutrition: "Eat a good breakfast."

THE RENEGADE RIP

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

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Revel and ride with rap band duo Atmosphere

By CHRIS GARZA
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Rip staff writer

The third full-length album by Minnesota duo Atmosphere is filled with many lyrical metaphors and snare-based beats. Often cynical at times, lyricist Slug meticulously crafts his words so the structure allows them to relate to his listeners. They are complex in a subtle way, but he does not use a thousand obnoxiously huge words that keep you steady with a dictionary. "And the bricks weigh more than they lead you to believe/ Just remember don't

let nobody lead you to believe." Slug himself is just another brick in the wall, not in the sense that he is similar to other rappers making music because he is definitely more unique than most, but because he is just a common person who has left his bag open so you can look through his things. A bit emotional at times, he continuously raps about "Lucy" and this album is no different. The song "Fuck you Lucy" is a well-drawn landscape that depicts his hate for this female metaphor. "Do I sound mad? Well I guess I'm a little pissed/ Every action has a point/ Five points make a fist/ You close 'em/ You swing 'em/ It hurts when it hits."

Slug continues to go on about his pain for about four more minutes and his anguish is not just visualized but heard in the way his words flow out of his mouth. It sounds as if he is grinding his teeth on a colorfully striped bendy-straw while delivering his verse. "And she still wonders why I'm so insecure/ She giggles because I sleep with a..." The next song is introduced by this phrase accompanied by a very nicely tapped piano segment by producer Ant as Slug explains to a female counterpart on why Atmosphere and people like Slug do not have groupies. "Hair" is what this song is called. It is funny and will put a smile on your face if your one that is not into the whole "I'm going to where my-

self to a band" mentality that some women have programmed or been programmed into their brains. It is the account of a groupie trying to get with him after a show, and how she pretty much has one thing on her mind. "She doesn't really care about his person; she only cares about the fact that he has just been on stage. She must run away with him. "I don't know/ Can't imagine something small as alcohol and hormones turning out to be anything big." The story ends with him giving in, but on their way to a nice lonely spot, they run a red light, and they both die. This song leads into the title track of the album and just a fantastic song overall, does not get old even after a million listens.

Once that simple piano melody comes in and then the snare just snaps down, compliments of Ant, Slug just rips one into the back jellies parts of your brain. "I wear my scars like the rings of a pimple/ I live like the captain of a sinking ship" The music creates a scene of a black and grey, drizzly, cloudy day. "I welcome all the hatred you can aim at my name/ I held on to the sacred ways of how to play the game/ When the soldiers started runnin' short on rations/ I began tappin' the egg to spark the hatch/ an' make it happen/ Now take this captain to the Gallows/ It keeps steerin' us into an area that's shallow." Ant's beats are nothing too unique,

but they are of a nature that makes you spit the song again just for the composition of music. He incorporates a lot of piano melody and snappy drum lines. Together, Slug and Ant complement each other to equal chivalry. Standout musical tracks include "Blamegame." Ant utilizes a reggae type of beat to underlay Slug's word play. "It's hard to hide a magic card when you wear a short-sleeve." This is a smooth and janky album all in one play. Slug's steady, tricky, and playful yet serious rhyming compounded with Ant's street-come, neck-popping productions equates to a joyful ride for your ears and inner eye. "Beat the point dead until these folks hear me clearly."

Quick, cheap and tasty

By RIGO VILLALOBOS
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Rip staff writer

Finding a good pizza place to eat close to Bakersfield College was not very difficult.

RESTAURANT REVIEW

L.A. Pizza Veloz is around three to five minutes away from campus. Located on 3605 Mt. Vernon Ave. and has specialties in Italian food since 1997 starting in Los Angeles and currently in Bakersfield as well. At first, I was not very sure of what to expect from, according to them, a place famous for their pizza and Italian specialties. However, at the end, I gave it an eight out of ten.

I went with a group of friends. Four of us shared a large pepperoni pizza, a side of sausage, an entrée of hot chicken wings and a salad. One of the biggest pros of eating at this restaurant was the pepperoni pizza, which had a really good and fresh taste as well as the chicken wings. The chicken wings were hotter than I thought they would be. They were hot and spicy as well. It did not take long to be served. Within a minute of arriving at the place, the server helped us with a couple of menu choices. It took them about eight minutes for our food to be served, but the bad thing is that they never came back again, not even for drink refills or any other details such as the need of more napkins on our table. The other "but" from this visit was the



La Pizza Veloz, a restaurant that specializes in Italian food, is located at 3605 Mt. Vernon Ave. across from Bakersfield College.

environment because with the extreme heat of the chicken wings and the pizza, it would have been a good idea for them to put their air conditioner to work. At first, I thought it was only myself, needing fresh air, but then I realized all my friends were also complaining about it, and it made our visit expectations a little less satisfactory. All the food is moderately priced at about \$4.99 to around \$15 per entrée. For this visit of four of us, we spent around \$40 after tax, tip and beverages. Dessert prices start at only \$2.25,

which seemed reasonable. On the other hand, do not expect anything fancy or glamorous, so it is fine if you leave your nice clothes at home. La Pizza Veloz is just a small simple restaurant that could be enjoyed with ease and is open seven days a week. The tables were small and could be easily moved, which was a very good attribute because we needed an extra one to fit. So if you are hungry, suffering from a lack of time and are tired of eating at the same place all the time, you should visit L.A. Pizza Veloz. You might enjoy it just as I did.

When there was large enough to move around, and the walls are mainly decorated with beer advertisements and of course Raiders posters. Overall, the place and food were good and overshadowed those small little negatives that were minor in comparison. I would definitely go back anytime I am hungry. The battles were very intense and a twist at every battle. Towards the end both teams finally faced off for the final battle. The story was amazing.

Vampires suck Alaskan blood

By DONNY VAN SLOTEN
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Rip staff writer

"30 Days of Night" is the best vampire movie I've seen in a long time. Action, suspense, horror, it's all there. I would give it four stars out of five, but there was only one thing in the movie that I didn't care for.

They could have given a back-story to the vampires. Where did they come from? Why did they choose to suck the life out of the town then? "30 Days of Night," which is based on a comic book, starts off by introducing the town of Barrow, Alaska, which is covered in darkness for a month every year. Most of the townspeople leave during this time, and once the darkness hits, there is no means of escape to the outside world. The town sheriff Eben Oleson (Josh Hartnett), and the rest of the town are preparing for the dark month.

A few hours before darkness, weird things start happening. All the watchdogs were slain and all of the town's communication systems were cut off. Eben's estranged wife Stella (Melissa George) misses the last flight out and is stuck in Barrow for the long haul. When night falls, vampire leader Marlow (Danny Huston), and his ruthless mob of bloodthirsty vampires descend on the frigid town.

Once the vampires hit the town, all chaos breaks out, leaving the humans with the choice of either hiding or dying. The residents of this northernmost town of the United States don't stand a chance against these savage vampires. Eben, Stella, and a small group of townspeople do manage to find a safe house and must move from place to place in order to survive, dismembering a few vampires here and there. The vampires in this movie are extremely fast, strong, scary, and sneaky, popping out at the most random times.

This movie will make you jump. It almost makes you wish they turned the lights back on during some parts. The suspenseful music in the background will give you the chills. "30 Days of Night" has non-stop action. Even if nothing happens, the tone of the music will keep you guessing. The vampires tore through the town's people left and right, leaving blood, destruction and human corpses. All who were killed by the vampires turned into bloodthirsty vampires themselves. Instead of growing in ranks and totally dominating the town, the jealous vampires severed the heads off their victims before they could transform.

Quite a few vampires were killed as well, mostly by a crazy guy in a tractor. Others got their heads chopped off by an ax. This movie is very gory; blood gets splattered around everywhere. The movie runs 113 minutes and is rated R.

Marvel Comics' superheroes unmasked during colossal Civil War

By GABINO VEGA ROSARIO
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Rip staff writer

900 casualties, the unmasking of Spider-Man and the death of Goliath were all part of the Marvel Comics event: Civil War.

COMIC REVIEW

This comic book style story had magnificent detail, interesting storyline, and constant surprises, written by Mark Millar and illustrated by Steve McNiven. In the Marvel Universe, a tragedy occurs, which causes Congress to pass the Superhero Registration Act.

This Act requires all heroes and villains to unmask themselves to the government. Iron-Man (Tony Stark) led a group of heroes into forcing all unregistered to register their identity. Captain American (Steve Rogers) led the underground resistance. Truly a masterpiece was created. The story begins with a team called The New Warriors. This group of masked characters works for a reality television show, which seek fighters for combat. A villain named Nitro blew up next to an elementary school that caused hundreds of casualties and thus the civil war begins. I will tell you a little bit about Spider-Man's involvement in the war. Before the war, Spider-Man died, but was able to resurrect himself. Tony Stark saw him as a protégé and built a new red and gold spider suit. To support Stark, Spider-Man signed the registration and revealed his true identity, Peter Parker. After the death of Goliath (he was part of the resistance), Stark and Parker got into a lot of problems. Government agents were hunting Parker because he fought with Stark. The Thunderbolts were used to find Parker and arrest him. The Thunderbolts are a group of villains like Venom, Bullseye, Lady Deathstrike. The Punisher eventually saved Parker and took him to the underground resistance. The battles were very intense and a twist at every battle. Towards the end both teams finally faced off for the final battle. The story was amazing.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARVEL.COM

der-Man's involvement in the war. Before the war, Spider-Man died, but was able to resurrect himself. Tony Stark saw him as a protégé and built a new red and gold spider suit. To support Stark, Spider-Man signed the registration and revealed his true identity, Peter Parker. After the death of Goliath (he was part of the resistance), Stark and Parker got into a lot of problems. Government agents were hunting Parker because he fought with Stark. The Thunderbolts were used to find Parker and arrest him. The Thunderbolts are a group of villains like Venom, Bullseye, Lady Deathstrike. The Punisher eventually saved Parker and took him to the underground resistance. The battles were very intense and a twist at every battle. Towards the end both teams finally faced off for the final battle. The story was amazing.

You have to read this comic to find out what really happens. Iron-Man's team has Yellowjacket, She-Hulk, Ms. Marvel, Bishop, the Thing, Thor and many more. Captain America's team has Human Torch, Black Panther, Storm, Cable, Daredevil, Namor and many more. This comic book has some blood, a lot of suspense and an interesting ending. I recommend all Marvel fans to read this event and keep it for the ages. Those who read it, will truly understand the meaning of "whose side... are you on?" This book is rated T, and I give it a 10 out of 10.

BC choir performs first concert

By JOEL R. PARAMO
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News editor

The First Congregational Church was filled with the music of love on Oct. 26, when the Bakersfield College Choir and Chamber Singers gathered for their first concert of the semester, titled "October Love," directed by Ronald M. Kean.

Among the eight pieces of music performed was a traditional liturgy of Israel that Kean arranged with local Banshee in the Kitchen band member Jill England titled "Avinu Malkeinu." Translated, it means "loving parent." "Jill and I combined to arrange this piece," said Kean. "We have like minds when it comes to world music. The first time I heard the song was on a winter CD Banshee and the Kitchen made. I was impressed with what Jill had done with the piece and just knew I had to arrange a version for the choir. It's spiritual and highly emotional," said Kean.

According to Kean, directing the choir can be like Michelangelo creating a sculpture. "You eventually choose a piece of marble you can work with, you chip away things that don't belong while visualizing what you want and then you get it," said Kean.

While singing you have to train your ears to know the different sounds of the chords, Kean explained. Kean believes that it takes experience and the biggest challenge to being successful is getting the choir to listen as a whole.

"It's a matter of technique to agree on a vocal production that's healthy and has resonance," said Kean. "You have to get everyone to do the same thing. It's all about balance and dynamics. The choir performed beautifully Friday night."

Kean has made a personal goal to arrange and/or compose a piece of music every year and has 20 published pieces circulating on a website called Pavane Publishing.

"I don't have a certain preference in music style that the choir performs or I arrange," said Kean. "It usually just depends on what we happen to be working on at that time of the year."

All money earned by the choir performances up until summer 2008 will fund the choir's tour to Hawaii, where they plan to experience and better understand Polynesian music and culture.



Kern Community College District Chancellor Sandra Serrano speaks at Bakersfield College Oct. 26 about plans to build a BC satellite campus. For more information about the proposed campus, see story at www.therip.com.

Two-man play starts Nov. 29

By ASHLEE FLORES
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Rip staff writer

The first African-American play to take the stage at Bakersfield College will be under the direction of Kimberly Chin.

"Top Dog/Underdog" is a play written by Suzan-Lori Parks, who was the first African-American woman to win the 2002 Pulitzer Prize for drama.

The play will feature two BC students: Deshawn Anton Robert Clark and Stefan Augustus Lambert.

They will play two brothers, Lincoln and Booth, who were abandoned by their parents and now look out for each other, rediscover their past, and look to the future to heal their wounds.

The first play of its kind to be produced at BC, the actors are very excited to be a part of it. According to Lambert, "I always wanted to do a play at BC, but there wasn't a part that fit."

Clark, who stopped acting for a year, is glad to be back in the theater atmosphere. According to Chin, it has always been one of her goals to have an African-American play at BC. However, it never went through until now.

According to Clark, he was motivated, but nothing ever came about it. But now everything is really falling into place," said Chin. Although this play is based on two

black characters, the drama can relate to all cultures. "This play is something everyone can relate to. You don't have to be black to relate to this play," said Chin.

"This play is real, not stereotypical. It's beyond stereotype," said Clark. The message that is being relayed to the audience has various meanings, and according to Lambert, "Just like the brothers were abandoned, so has the American society abandoned males, and we're left to our own devices."

In order to make this play possible, the actors also did research to learn more about their characters, including visiting Colonel Allensworth State Historic Park.

According to Lambert, "It's the only complete black-owned state park in the world."

The actors said they learned a lot of things from the play. "It was a part of history we didn't know about," said Lambert. "I had never heard of that town, and, apparently, I have relatives living there," said Clark.

Chin said that it was a great experience, and, by doing this play, they're not only learning about theater, but they're also learning about themselves.

The drama will take place at the BC Indoor Theater Nov. 29 and 30 and Dec. 1, 6, 7, and 8. If you have any questions, contact Kimberly Chin at 395-4388.

BC jazz varies on themes at fall concert

By ASHLEE FLORES
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Rip staff writer

The Bakersfield College Jazz Ensemble held their annual fall concert Oct. 27 under the direction of Kris Tiner.

Students from BC and jazz musicians throughout the community came to play for the event that featured various rhythms of jazz, including Latin jazz, jazz fusion, traditional jazz, which uses walking bass lines, gospel and soul.

Tiner said he has been doing this particular ensemble for four years and really enjoys it. "I just love the freedom to deal with difficult kinds of music and dif-

ferent kinds of approaches of music," Tiner said.

In order to be placed in the ensemble, students sign up and audition and begin practicing from the first day of school.

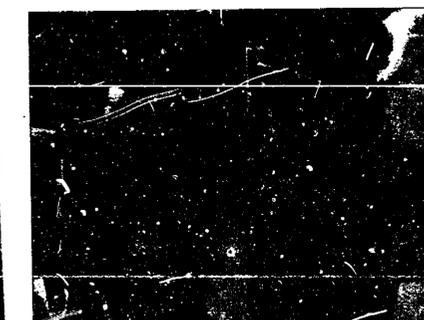
According to Tiner, the students are a part of Music B13 and they practice twice a week for two hours to make this ensemble possible.

Tiner said he teaches a wide variety of music because he thinks that it's important for students to get a wide range of styles.

The next jazz ensemble will be held in December and will feature jazz and Christmas music. If you have any questions concerning the ensemble, contact Kris Tiner at 395-4240.

CRIME BERT	
Oct. 29, 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. At Bakersfield College's Delano extension at 1450 Timmons Ave., a student's wallet was stolen.	been tampered with. However, no items were stolen.
Oct. 30 at 12:15 p.m. In BC's cafeteria, a student was seen brandishing a 9-inch black dagger.	A BC student's iPod was removed from the gym.
Oct. 31 In BC's northeast parking lot, the driver's door of a student's car had	In BC's Free Speech area, a BC student threatened another BC student with physical injury.
	A BC student's backpack containing a \$25 check was stolen from BC's Gym.

PG&E has great idea in Free Speech area



Mark Salcedo distributes light bulbs to BC students Oct. 30.

By GABINO VEGA ROSARIO
gvega@bakersfieldcollege.edu
Rip staff writer

Pacific Gas and Electric Company teamed up with Bakersfield College employees to promote electricity-saving technology in the Free Speech area of campus on Oct. 23.

At the "Change a Light, Change the World" event, free compact fluorescent light bulbs that use less electricity were given away.

Students who wanted a free 13-watt compact fluorescent light bulb had to fill out their name and address.

Information bags were given to more than 1,000 students. "Since BC is going under construction, they wanted to help us out and reduce global warming," said Director of Marketing and Public Relations Amber Chiang.

According to PG&E, the compact fluorescent light bulbs use up about 13 watts of electricity, while the incandescent bulbs use up to 60 watts.

PG&E promotes its money and energy-saving technology in an effort to reduce the carbon dioxide emissions that cause global warming.

"I saw the advertisement, and I've been planning on getting some new light bulbs," said Eva Cortez, an anthropology major.

"I'm doing this to test out how much I would save." On average, the compact fluorescent light bulbs cost more than the regular type, but the savings are also based on climate conditions, age conditions, cased patterns, and energy consumption of equipment replaced.

Equipment that could help reduce global warming if checked include air conditioners, dishwashers, central furnaces, water heaters and washing machines.

"I found out that a phone charger still sucks electricity even though the phone is not attached," said Cortez.

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BC BRAINS

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

Adam Loveridge, Interservice staff: "I don't know. It has to do with banks. They approve banks."

Austin Martin, civil engineering: "Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation."

Diane Rossetto, human services: "Something to do with taxes."

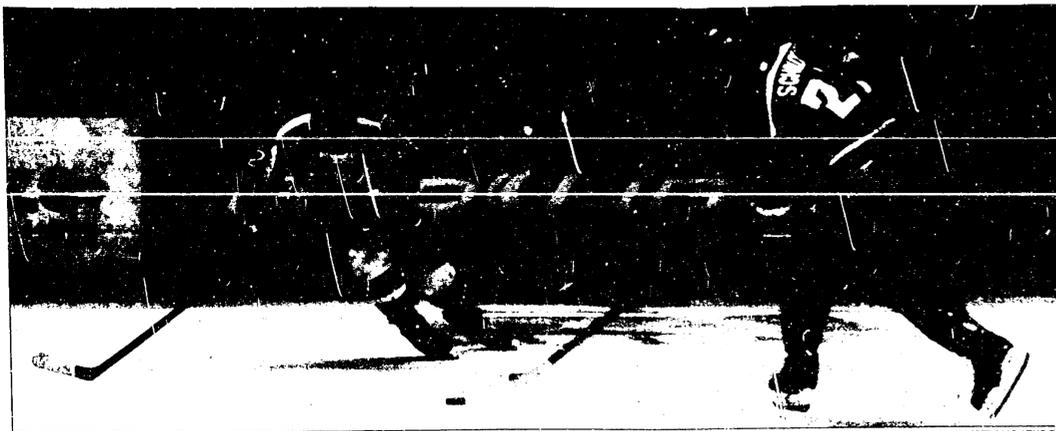
Edward Nathan Smith, psychology: "Something federal. I don't know."

Melissa Berkowitz, physiology: "I have no idea."

Michael Lopez, art history: "Federal dollar institute."

What does FDIC stand for?

Compiled by Ally Armstrong / The Rip



Above: Brett Lutes of the Bakersfield Condors attempts to take possession of the puck during a game against the Alaska Aces Oct. 24. Below: Bakersfield Condor Eric Sonnenberg engages in a fight with an Alaska Ace.

Condors' games pack plenty of action



By **DONNY VAN SLOTEN**
dvan@bakersfieldcollege.edu
Rip staff writer

Hard hits, fights, and skills make hockey a popular sport to watch for area residents, which is why sports fans follow the Bakersfield Condors professional team.

"I've been to a Blaze (minor-league baseball team) game, and it wasn't too exciting. I'd rather watch the Condors. It's non-stop action," said Brenden Johnson.

"The games are fun, and it's a good family night out," George Gard said. "The Condors are a good team; they give the fans a good show," said Gard.

At the Oct. 25 home game, the Condors had a coat drive.

Anyone who donated a coat got into the game for \$1. Nearly 2,200 coats were collected.

Over 4,000 fans were in attendance.

"I've been to a few Bakersfield Blitz (former arena football team)

games, but I've been coming to Condor games since they were the Fog," said Tom Estrada.

As of Oct. 25, Condors total attendance ranked number one in the league, according to bakersfieldcondors.com.

"The Condors are great, not only because they are good, but they give back to the community, too," said Junior Coates.

The Condors have a golf tournament and canned food drive to give to the community.

Giving to the community could be a reason why Condors games are so popular.

Of course, the fast pace, action, skill might have something to do with it, too.

"The games are fun to watch; I like the fights and the skills showed by the players," said Noel Hernandez.

Free stuff given away at most of the home games and the intensity of the games is enough to get Condors' fan Nathan Armstrong coming back. "The games are intense, and the free stuff is always great," said Armstrong.

Dragsters compete; record broken

By **BRYAN LUNG**
bryan_lung2302@yahoo.com
Rip staff writer

Over 60 boats participated in the National Jet Boat Association Racing finals at Lake Ming Nov. 3-4.

The boats reached over 130 mph in a drag race that lasted only 10 to 20 seconds.

Simon Imhof, a driver in the top alcohol boat division, said, "The drag races are like Christmas time for me and my family; we look forward to it every year."

Imhof's boat did not qualify this year due to an engine failure in the middle of a qualifying race.

Imhof did, however, stay for the rest of the races. He said that "it sucks that I didn't have a chance to win after all the money I have put into my boat, but I still like to watch."

Imhof said it is costly to maintain a boat, especially if it is participating in races on a regular basis. He said that it can cost about \$500 to maintain the engine after the race.

Imhof wasn't the only racer having poor luck on Saturday. Another racer, Steve Roucher, was flung from his boat after its nose dug into the water. Roucher said, "My boat and I are fine. My knee is a little banged up."

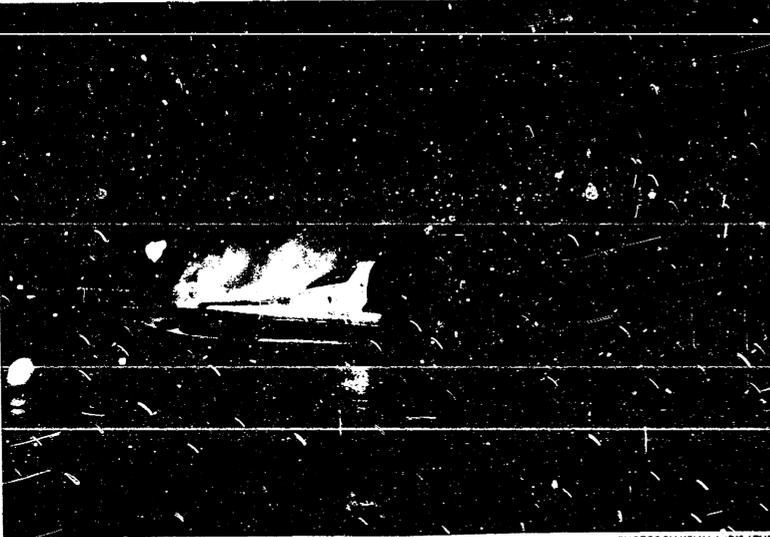
Mike Hali, a rescue worker, said, "We were expecting it eventually, but we were surprised that it hadn't happened sooner."

The rescue workers were kept busy later, after Mike Finnegan's boat arrived on the end ramp after the race, missing a scoop that allowed air to pass through the motor.

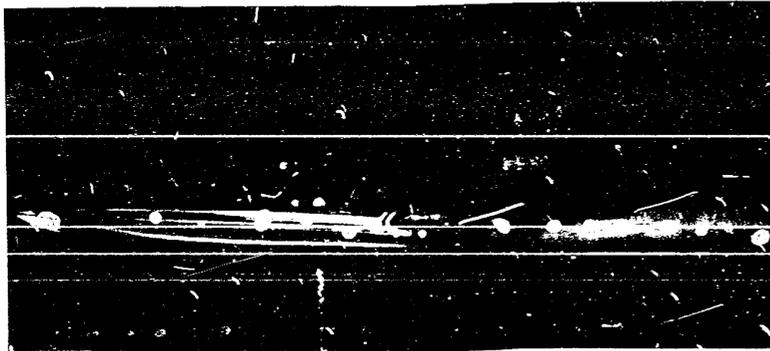
The rescue workers found the missing scoop after the race concluded on the first day.

Steve Sharps' crew had reasons for celebration early in the race after breaking a record at 140.8 mph and a 7.71 estimated time.

Sharps qualified in first place in his racing bracket with the best time and speed.



Above: Two participants in the National Jet Boat Association finals race against each other at Lake Ming on Nov. 4. Below: A racer glides across the water in his boat.



CALENDAR

Nov. 7
Author Gerald Haslam: Discovering Home, Bakersfield College Fireside Room, 6:30 p.m.

BC wrestling, Rio Hondo WSC Dual meet, Bakersfield College, all day

BC women's basketball vs. Santa Barbara, Bakersfield College, 6 p.m.

Nov. 8-10
BC men's basketball at Ventura, TBA

Nov. 8
BC volleyball vs. Santa Monica, Bakersfield College, 7 p.m.

Nov. 9-11
BC women's basketball at San Diego, TBA

Nov. 9
BC soccer at Glendale, 7 p.m.

Nov. 10-11
Disney on Ice "High School Musical: The Ice Tour," Rabobank Arena, 3:30 p.m.

Nov. 10
BC wrestling at San Francisco, all day

BC football vs. Canyons, BC Memorial Stadium, 4 p.m.

Bakersfield South Rotary Memorial Dollars for Scholars Run, California Living Museum, 8 a.m.

Judith Ingolfsson, Rabobank Arena, 8 p.m.

Nov. 12-13
BC women's golf at Fresno, State Championship, 8 a.m.

Nov. 12
Veterans Day Holiday, no school

Nov. 13
BC women's basketball vs. Porterville, Bakersfield College, 7 p.m.

Nov. 14
BC volleyball at Glendale, 7 p.m.

Pacific Coast Horns, Rabobank Theater, 7:30 p.m.

Nov. 15-17
BC men's basketball at Fresno/Reedley, TBA

Nov. 15
Clock Tower Holidays and Movie Magic Preview, Kern County Museum, 5 p.m.

Nov. 16
BC women's basketball vs. Allan Hancock, Bakersfield College, 7 p.m.

Nov. 17
BC football, Golden Empire Bowl, 3 p.m.

BC wrestling at Fullerton, all day

BC cross country at Fresno, State Championship, 10 a.m.

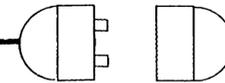
BC women's basketball vs. Cuesta, Bakersfield College, 7 p.m.

Nov. 20
BC volleyball, Regional Playoffs round one, TBA

BC women's basketball at Whittier, 5 p.m.

Nov. 21
No evening classes

COMPILED BY MARGINDA COIL / THE RIP



California fires nearly contained

Though fires are almost gone, clean-up efforts are still under way for California.

By **STEVEN C. VOGEL**
svogel@bakersfieldcollege.edu
Rip staff writer



Ashes are the only remains in a property marked by authorities in Modjeska Canyon of Orange County on Nov. 3.

of normalcy.

According to the San Diego Fire Department, approximately 500,000 acres have burned, 3,000 structures have been destroyed and 500,000 people have been evacuated from their homes, since the onset of the fires on Oct. 20.

Although investigations are still in the works by various fire departments and state officials, it is presumed that the fires were primarily caused by dry brush and lack of rain.

"We are experiencing extremely dry conditions across the forest and another wind event is predicted for this coming weekend," said Peggy Hernandez, Supervisor for the Los Padres National Forest.

"In addition, many of our firefight-

ing resources are assisting with fires in Southern California, and while some resources have arrived from out of state to assist us, our ability to respond to new fires is affected. I know people are eager to get back into the forest, but their safety and the safety of Forest Service personnel must be my first priority."

According to the UCSB Daily Nexus, the Zaca fire, located in Santa Barbara, burned 240,207 acres from July through Oct. 30. It is considered the second-largest single wildfire in California's recorded history, and cost the state of California and the Federal Emergency Management Agency \$143 million to bring it to a state of containment.

FEMA federal aid and support

from relief organizations has provided shelter, water, and food for those who have been displaced because of the recent wildfires.

According to the American Red Cross, the response from churches, individuals, and businesses around the country has been beneficial in helping those affected achieve their everyday lives.

"The donations to the Red Cross California wildfire relief efforts were instrumental in our ability to provide assistance to residents, firefighters, and first responders in Southern California," said Kathleen Loehr, interim senior vice president of development at the American Red Cross. "This kind of help and generosity is critical during times of disaster."

According to the Kern County Fire Department, which has substations located in Bakersfield, Tehachapi and Arvin, firefighters were sent out to help combat fires and assist with containment.

"We need to protect their homes ahead of time. Also, parents need to make sure their children know not to play with matches or lighters. Our firefighters are a part of the threat posed by the Santa Ana winds and are fully prepared if we (Kern County) are in any danger," said Chris Strub, Kern County Fire Department Public Information Officer.

According to a press release issued by the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, the Southern California fires are affecting air

"We are on the eve of beginning all these projects. Come February, we'll really have a lot of hammers going."

— **Cheryl Keenan**, Executive director

quality for residents in Kern, Tulare, Fresno, San Joaquin, Madera, Merced, and Kings county.

"These fires are producing large amounts of smoke, which is resulting in increasing particulate concentrations," said Gary Arcemont, a meteorologist for the district. "If you smell smoke, take precautions to avoid health impacts."

Furthermore, and in an attempt to prevent additional fire damage, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger has ordered that the California National Guard and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, as well as the Office of Emergency Services be on sight to continually evaluate the status of winds.

For up-to-date information on the status of the California wildfires, visit the web site for the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection at <http://www.fire.ca.gov>, or by phone at (916) 653-5656.

For additional information on providing monetary and material assistance to the victims of the Southern California fires, contact the Kern Chapter of the American Red Cross at 324-6427, or the Kern County United Way at 834-1820.

"Our need for support extends beyond the Southern California fires," said Gayle Falkenthal, executive director of the American Red Cross of San Diego and Imperial Counties. "We already have staff that happens every day. We need people to step-up to the plate now more than ever before."

To obtain information on volunteering with debris clean-up and removal and providing onsite assistance to fire victims and clean-up crews, contact Volunteer San Diego at (858) 636-4127 or visit their Web site at volunteersandiego.org.

Residents returned after fires decrease

By **GABINO VEGA ROSARIO**
gvega@bakersfieldcollege.edu
Rip staff writer

Residents displaced by the fire in the southeast area of California were told, after two weeks of sleeping in tents, cars, and mobile homes, that they could go home.

Silverado residents have been living, eating, and getting community support on an Albertson's parking lot. Chip Prather, Orange County fire chief, made the announcement, which allowed residents to go back home.

The Santiago Fire has been burning around the area of Silverado, which forced residents to evacuate and leave everything behind. Approximately 80 people were evacuated on Oct. 21 because of the rise of the Santiago Fire, one of three fires in Southern California.

Among Silverado Canyon, Foothill Ranch, and Modjeska Canyon were evacuated. Both towns were allowed to go back home in less than a week. But because of Santa Ana winds rising up and fire still active in Silverado, returning home was delayed.

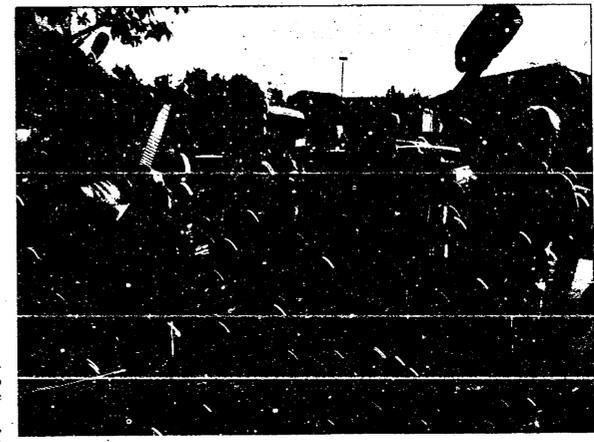
"We had three goals when we started," said Prather. "We want nobody dying, nobody injured, and no homes lost."

But because the Santiago Fire burned 28,400 acres of land these goals were very hard to accomplish. According to Prather, 15 houses were lost, some trees, and in some areas.

The fire is 90% contained but should be under control in less than a week.

The damage results of the fire in Modjeska Canyon were minor, but hearts were still broken.

"American flags were put on the area where a house was burned," said Bobbi Tunstall.



"We had three goals when we started. We want nobody dying, nobody injured, and no homes lost."

— **Chip Prather**, Orange County fire chief

"We were so happy when we were told to come back home but the damage is still here." The majority of the houses were saved, but according to reports, seven houses were lost.

Other fires that were active like the Santiago Fire were Poomacha Fire, Witch Fire, and Harris Fire. Because of all these fires, the whole Cleveland National Forest was closed for the public and will not be open anytime soon.

Since Oct. 21, more than 350,240 acres were burned, more than 5,200 firefighters were involved, and more than \$41 million worth of damage have been reported as a result of these fires. Fires have been occurring in between Los Angeles and San Diego. For more information visit www.fs.fed.us/r5/cleveland, or call (858) 673-6180.

Weather elements increase fire damage

■ Santa Ana winds along with hot, dry temperatures add fuel to fires as well as Bakersfield's pollution.

By **MARGINDA COIL**
margycoil@yahoo.com
Features editor

Weather not only causes tornados, thunder, lightning, and painful sunburns, it can also create "the perfect storm" for fires, especially the recent fires.

"The weather conditions associated with the 'storm' were perfect to spark the fires, and keep them going," said earth science professor John Menzies. "Honestly, this (was) near perfect conditions almost to make these fires as bad as possible."

According to Menzies, it was "the perfect storm" for possible arson in the recent fires.

"I know there was some speculation with respect to it being arson," said Menzies. "I'm thinking if it was arson, it was probably by somebody who knew the climatic conditions. They probably knew that, given those conditions, if they started the fire now that we would be in real trouble. It is a horrible crime if indeed it was arson."

The Santa Ana winds concurrent with these fires did not help out.

According to Menzies, the Santa Ana winds are sparked by a high-pressure system over the basin area, which is around the Utah area, and a low-pressure system over the coast of California.

Because the nature of air is to "equalize and spread itself out," the high-pressure system alleviates some of its pressure by moving toward the coast where there is lower pressure, said Menzies. This pattern of moving

from high to low pressure is called a pressure gradient force, which creates the Santa Ana winds in the fall season.

"So, what you have is winds, which are basically moving toward the coast at this time of year, which are very hot and very dry," said Menzies, "and the moisture content of the air is very low, which again is going to prevent us litigating the fires."

However, the fires are contained now.

Besides the firefighters, which are the biggest explanations for the containment, the recent weather has helped firefighters out.

"Recently, we've had slightly cooler weather and slightly higher humidity near the coast," said Menzies, "and obviously that is going to help out in litigating the fire."

Many people witnessed this "slightly cooler weather" and humidity on Oct. 29 when rain and diminished hail stormed Bakersfield.

Though residents at risk must still be aware of the smoke that has transcended from these fires, Bakersfield residents only have to endure a little more pollution.

According to Menzies, "Already we have extremely dirty air. You can practically chew the air here in Bakersfield. The only thing the smoke could potentially do here is make the air a little bit dirtier."

However, another effect of the smoke can actually be quite beautiful.

"Sometimes you see at dusk is a red sky. What that is, is red light, which is scattering off of the smoke and the dust particles in the atmosphere," said Menzies. "So, extra smog can produce somewhat of a red or spectacular kind of sunset. That's the red scattering off of the pollution, basically, that is in our atmosphere."

PHOTOS BY ERIK AGUILAR / THE RIP

SPORTS

BC woman golfer enjoys being her only teammate

By TAYLOR M. GOMBOS
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Rip staff writer

For sophomore golfer Dana Ameson, being the only golfer on the women's golf team is something she enjoys.

"I actually like it because there are a lot less distractions, and I have more focus on my own game. It helps the coach. It's like a more personal thing. He can help me more," Ameson said.

Ameson, 20, tied for 10th in the Southern California Regional held Nov. 4-5 to qualify for the state tournament. Ameson shot 78 and 82 at the regional. The state competition is Nov. 12-13 at Sunnyside Country Club in Fresno.

Ameson said that it is not very difficult being the only golfer on the team, but the only hard part she says is that everyone is looking just at her score. So, if she does badly, it falls on her.

Ameson says that the good part about being the only golfer on the team is that it makes it much easier to improve her game.

"Last year, I had my good friend Sarah on the team, and we would talk a lot more than practice," said Ameson. "I'm a lot more focused on my own game; I've improved this last year. Larry Cook is a great coach. I've learned a lot more this year."

Ameson said that she feels that her biggest strength is her long game.

"I can hit the ball a long ways. Compared to the other girls, I think I have one of the longest games out of our conference. That is sort of an advantage for me."

Ameson feels that she needs to work on her short game. She said the short game is really important, and it is something she has been working on improving.

"I am just trying to get my AA so I can go somewhere else next year. I plan to get a scholarship and go play golf next year and improve my game," she said.

Ameson said that she does not have very many things that she likes to do outside of golf. "Besides just hanging out with friends and spending time with my family, mostly it's golf. It's what I do with all my time."

Ameson mentioned that there are certain things that are tough mentally about the sport of golf. "Golf is mostly a mind game; you have to focus. If you think you're going to hit a bad shot, you probably will. You just have to concentrate and not let all the noise around you, not let all the distractions bother you. If you do, you're not going to play well, that's the bottom line."

Cook said that one of Ameson's biggest strengths is her athleticism. "She's always been able to strike the ball. She has a natural golf swing to create a lot of power."

Ameson said that her dad got her into golf. "I started when I was 10. I did a golf clinic or two, played in some tournaments, then we moved out here to California. I didn't really get serious about it (golf) until high school."

Ameson shot a 9-over 81 to finish with a 36-hole total of 164 to tie for seventh place at the Western State Conference championships Oct. 29 and 30 in Solvang. She earned first team All-Western State Conference honors.



LISA VARGAS / THE RIP

Dana Ameson, the only golfer on the Bakersfield College women's golf team, qualified for the state tournament.

Female player served in Army

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

Bakersfield College's women's basketball player, sophomore center Tiffany Jones, 29, has been many places while serving in the Army.

"My last station, where I got out of the Army, was Fort Irwin, California," said Jones.

"My first station was Fort Lee, Virginia. I was stationed in Germany for four years; I was in Missouri for a while. I played all-Army basketball at Fort Hood, Texas, for a while. I have been everywhere," Jones said.

Jones got out of the Army as an E-4, which meant she was granted medical leave from the Army. "I ended up getting diabetes," Jones said.

According to Jones, there is no chance of getting called back into service in the Army. "I am totally retired. Because I have diabetes, I am non-deployable, because there is no way to store insulin on the combat field. So, that makes me safe from harm's way, so to speak," she said.

Jones mentioned that while playing basketball in the Army and at Jackson State, she learned to be committed, dedicated, and disciplined. She said she can bring those traits to this year's team.

"Commitment is everything; if you're not committed to a team, or committed to what you do, it falls apart. When you have to be somewhere, you've got to be there. You've got to be able to balance your life off the court with your life on the court," she said.

Jones adds that she also wants to bring prayer to the women's basketball team. "I'm a religious person, so I believe you should pray before you do anything. I believe that you should pray before you leave your house in the morning to face the world. I think you should pray before you get into your car to go driving. I think you should pray before you get on the court. That's one thing I would like to bring to the team. We are a team, and we should be able to pray as a team, because we are all trying to reach a common goal."

Jones feels that she can improve in every aspect of her game, and that she is always improving every day. "I'm almost 30 years old; I'm a little rusty from head to toe. Any part of the game, I know I can still learn more," said Jones.

Jones says that in her free time, she likes to go to church and do different activities with Intervarsity and with her church. Jones enjoys spending time with her daughter. Women's coach Paula Dahl feels that Jones' strengths are that she is a good communicator on the floor and that she utilizes her height advantage.

"At 6'4", she keeps the ball high, which is awesome," Dahl said. "Because a lot of times, athletes, no matter how tall they are, tend to bring the ball down. She (Jones) has a good sense of the court of defense," Dahl said.

Dahl says that the key with Jones is getting her physically fit to have the impact that the team expects of her.

Win creates rhythm

By KATHERINE J. WHITE
kwhite@bc.cc.us
Sports editor

Bakersfield College's volleyball team has found its rhythm.

That is what teammates said after the victory over Glendale, Oct. 26. The Renegades won 3-0 with scores of 30-13, 30-18, and 30-18.

"Leadership and maturity led to rhythm; the rhythm was a by-product of superior leadership and maturity," coach Carl Ferreira said.

Outside hitter Heather Liles attributes the win to a high kill percentage, while middle hitter Haylee Varner says the team got off to a good start and kept the pace up. Varner and Katie Cronk, outside hitter, agree that the team kept up a consistent rhythm. There was good team communication, said libero Emily Ermigarat.

"We took care of business," said Ashley Parnell, middle hitter.

The game began with Glendale serving first, and the ball went out of bounds. With a point for the Renegades, Tricia McGowan served the ball to Glendale who knocked it out of bounds.

McGowan served the ball successfully many times over during the course of the game as did Heather Liles, who successfully served as the score of the first game rose to 4-1, in BC's favor.

At this point, Katie Cronk, Rachel Cox, and Jaimee Humphrey blocked the net. As the score rose to 6-2, in the Renegades' favor, Cox set up the ball, and Humphrey got the ball over.

In fact, as per usual, Cox did most of the setting up. With Cox setting up, Humphrey and Haylee Varner did a great deal of spiking. Humphrey performed a lot of efficient serving. Cronk was the most active player who frequently served, blocked, passed, and spiked. Before the end of the first game, Torrie McRoberts, defense specialist, efficiently served the ball.

Karlise Thompson began to stand out well at setting up and spiking when the score went to 26-12.

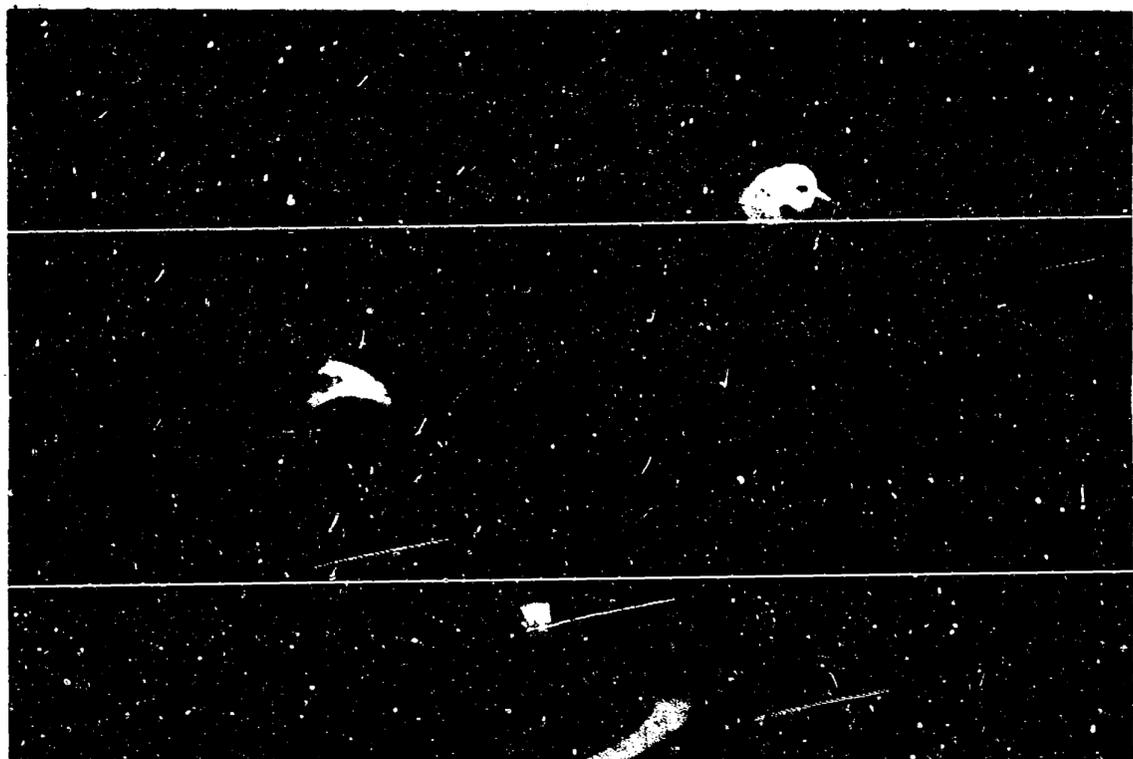
During the second game when the score was 2-1, in Glendale's favor, Liles jumped to Cox. Cox set up for Cronk, who spiked. Humphrey spiked when the score was 9-8, in the Renegades' favor.

In the third game, Cox and Liles worked hard together, with Cox setting for Liles and Cronk. Karlise Thompson stood out in blocking and spiking.

"Everyone is on the same page; that's incredible," Ferreira said during the third game. Jennifer Brite, defense specialist, agreed with her team that they possessed high communication skills and good rhythm.

The team lost to Canyons 1-4 on Oct. 30 but beat Citrus 3-1 on Nov. 2. The team's record is 17-5 overall and 5-2 in its WSC division.

Cuesta slips out of BC's grasp



LISA VARGAS / THE RIP

Bakersfield College's Zach Johnson (174 pounds) attempts to take down Cuesta College's Miles Wallace. Cuesta won the Western State Conference dual match on Oct. 31 held at BC, Cuesta won 28-12 over BC, giving Cuesta a record of 4-0 and the Renegades 3-3.

Renegades hold on to winning streak

■ Bakersfield College beat Allan Hancock on Nov. 3 and will go against College of the Canyons to maintain their undefeated record.

By LEANNE CAVE
Special to the Rip

The Bakersfield College football team will play its regular season finale at Memorial Stadium on Saturday against the College of the Canyons Cougars.

It should be an exciting game as the Renegades (9-0) and Cougars (8-1) will fight it out for the Western State Conference Mountain Division title.

"Canyons is a good football team, they run the spread offense (a lot of passing) and have talented athletes," said Jeff Chudy, BC head coach. "We expect a great game from them."

The Nov. 3 contest between BC and the Allan Hancock Bulldogs in Santa Maria before 1,950 fans was, as usual, a "backyard brawl."

Each team had turnovers and was flagged for 85 yards a piece.

"We didn't execute and we had way too many mental penalties," Chudy said. "We can't do that against Canyons."

Hancock took its best shot at the Renegades, but to no avail, as BC beat the Bulldogs 36-23.



The first series against Hancock was vintage BC offense.

Jacob Bower, BC quarterback, connected on several key passes and capped a 51-yard drive with a nicely thrown 17-yard touchdown to wide receiver Brandon Banks.

Arturo Villa added the extra point and BC led, 7-0.

It looked as though Hancock had an answer to BC's scoring drive on its initial possession as the Bulldogs managed to move the ball down to the Renegade 1-yard line but eventually sealed for a 24-yard field goal by kicker Juan Velasco.

BC's next score was courtesy of freshman running back Greg Williams.

Williams took the ensuing kickoff and raced 80 yards to the end zone, giving the Renegades a 13-3 lead. The extra point attempt was blocked

by Hancock.

The Bulldogs' defense had some bite on BC's next possession as David Wolfe picked up a fumbled exchange and returned it 34 yards for a touchdown.

Velasco kicked the extra point making the score, 13-10.

The only score of the second quarter was a 19-yard FG by Villa. BC led 16-10 at the half.

The third quarter was as eventful as the first.

Hancock scored first on a 32-yard field goal by Velasco, bringing the Bulldogs to within 16-13.

One of the positive things in this contest for BC was the ground game that amassed 257 yards against a feisty Hancock defense.

Running back Pat Patterson rushed for 82 of those yards and scored BC's third touchdown of the game as he scored from 6 yards out.

Villa added the extra point, and the Renegades led 23-13.

Then Hancock made things interesting by driving 56 yards and scoring on a 2-yard touchdown pass from Casey Cathcart to Christian Jespersen. Velasco kicked the extra point, and the Bulldogs had closed to 23-20.

Enter Bruce Frieson.

Frieson, a freshman from Toledo, rushed for 148 on 15 carries and put six more points on the board for BC when he romped 70 yards for a touchdown.

Villa added the extra point giving BC a 10-point cushion going into the fourth quarter.

"We have a stable of quality running backs," Chudy said. "They do a great job for our offense."

The kickers were vital to both teams. Villa added field goals of 25 and 34 yards in the fourth quarter, while Velasco kicked a 31-yarder for Hancock.

With 3:25 left on the clock, BC cornerback Dustin Bell intercepted the Dogs' last hopes of a comeback.

Bell has six interceptions this season.

Talking about his game-saving pick, Bell said, "They threw the ball, and I came down with it. It feels great."

On Oct. 27 the Renegades improved to 8-0 when they traveled to L.A. West and routed the Oilers, 38-6.

Even though it was an overall team effort, it is important to note the efforts of running backs Ben Estill and Pat Patterson.

Estill rushed for 139 yards, while Patterson rushed for 107.

"I'm just glad I had the chance to run," Estill said. "I want to do my part. There is so much talent in the backfield."

The Renegades will face College of the Canyons in the regular season finale on Saturday at Memorial Stadium. Game time is scheduled for 4 p.m.

MEN'S SCHEDULE

November
Nov. 8-10 at Ventura Tournament
Nov. 15-17 at Fresno/Redeefy Tournament

WOMEN'S SCHEDULE

November
Nov. 7 at Ventura Tournament
Nov. 8-10 at Ventura Tournament
Nov. 15-17 at Fresno/Redeefy Tournament
Nov. 16 Hancock at BC, 7 p.m.
Nov. 17, units at BC, 7 p.m.
Nov. 20 at Rio Honda, 5 p.m.

BC president to retire after three years

■ In order to spend more time with his family, Andrews has decided to retire as president of BC.

By **JOEL R. PARAMO**
jparamo@bakersfieldcollege.edu
News editor

After serving as president of Bakersfield College for nearly three years, William Andrews has declared that he will be retiring July 1, 2008.



Andrews

jobs that are very demanding time-

"I started thinking about it when I turned 60. It's an age thing, that coupled with the fact that we have two new grand-children and both my wife and I have

wise," said Andrews. "So, retirement will give me time."

Andrews announced his decision to the school's Academic Senate.

"We were surprised he decided to retire this soon, but not that it was going to happen," said Academic Senate president John Gerhold. "He didn't make it a secret that he was thinking about retiring, especially when he mentioned buying back the family farm earlier this year. There were rumors."

In the middle of anticipated ac-

creditation recommendation implementing, a strategic plan and plans for remodeling and building. Andrews will take his leave knowing that he has not exactly completed everything he hoped to do for BC.

"You can never accomplish everything you wanted to get done on your list," he said. "But, that's normal. There will always be more things to accomplish than time or money can allow to happen."

His focuses for the rest of his time as president will be primarily

to implement recommendations of the accreditation team and National Center for Developmental Education reports. He will be focusing on pre-collegiate basic skills, student success and will try to complete the strategic plan for BC.

Though implementation and remodeling will continue as planned, Gerhold feels that by Andrews leaving, the way things are conducted may change at BC.

"It will change the atmosphere," said Gerhold. "Dr. Andrews is infor-

mal and laid back, he likes you to use his first name, and he doesn't stand for ceremony. His attitude works well for BC. Schools tend to take the character of those people that are in charge. We don't know how this new president may be."

Andrews started his career in 1968 as an English teacher at Grundy Center High School in Iowa. He eventually made his way into administration while he obtained his doctorate in education in 1991 from New Mexico
See **ANDREWS**, Page 2

Class to turn into center

By **CHRIS GARZA**
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Rip staff writer

A humane donation by Dr. Norman Levan has created a place that will specifically be for the outreach of intelligence into the community as well as a workshop area for existing faculty and administration.

According to President William Andrews, the donation by Dr. Levan was a gift to Bakersfield College that included \$2 million in funds to create the center, which is titled The Norman Levan Center for the Humanities, and another \$1.5 million that are endowment funds. Only the money generated from the \$1.5 million, in interest, can be used toward the center. The body of the money must never be spent.

According to an approved outline by Dr. Levan, the center "has the mission of providing programs and other activities which promote improved connections between the humanities and the practice of medicine, support ethical behavior in business and the professions, and encourage greater levels of scholarship and intellectual exchange among the faculty of Bakersfield College as well as in the Bakersfield Community."

In order for the concept of the center to exist, it needed the framework of a home.

There were five destinations that were chosen as ideas for the new center. Two rooms were located in the humanities section of the campus, at the north and east end. Another option was building a new location, while an out-skirted option was to leave the money as is. The last location was B-18, which was decided as the new location for the center.

The chosen destination, however, will momentarily displace students and faculty that inhabited the space that is the Office and Technology Lab area located in Room B-18, a spacious computer lab with a couple of offices for faculty members. It is located in the Business section of the campus.

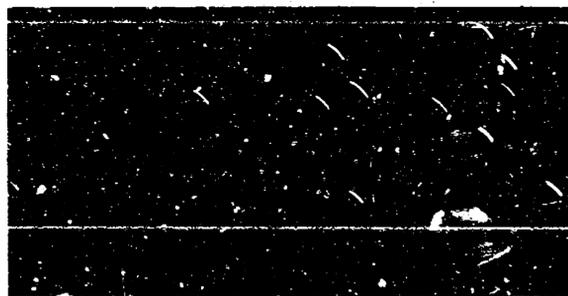
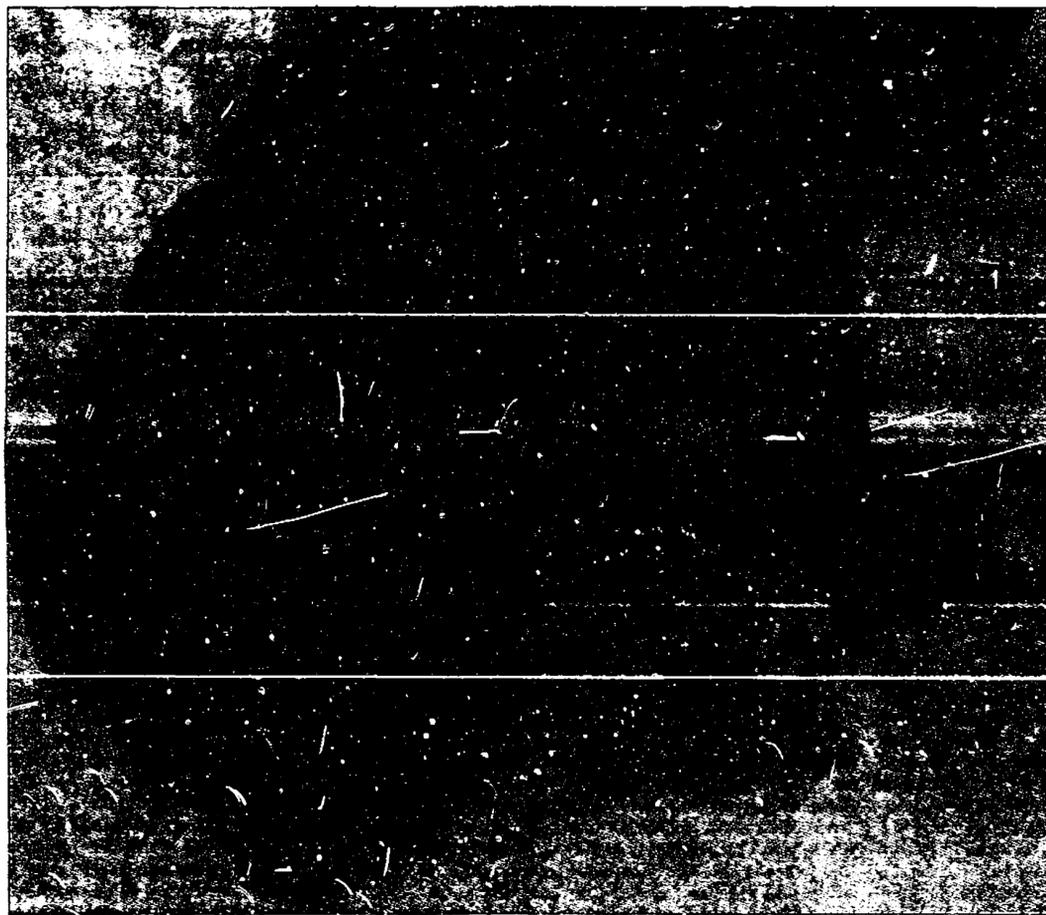
B-18 was moved because it would not affect as many students as the other proposed locations. "One of the justifications was use of the class," said Academic Senate President John Gerhold. "It had a lot of classes in it, but it did not service that many full-time students. So if we took it offline, to put the Levan Center there, the administration said that it would not have that great of an impact on the college at large."

40 hours a week is how much time the lab is in operation.

"It had the least negative impact on instruction," said Andrews. "I'm con-

See **LEVAN CENTER**, Page 2

Daggers drop over BC

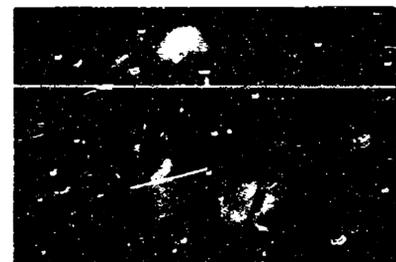


Above: *Black Daggers*, which is part of the U.S. Army Special Operations Command Parachute Demonstration Team, land on the field during halftime for the Golden Empire Bowl on Nov. 17 at BC.

Left: Fans look up toward the sky to watch as the *Black Daggers* rained down from the sky during halftime.

For more coverage of the game see page 10.

Photos by Ally Armstrong / The Rip



LISA VARGAS / THE RIP

Gerald Haslam speaks at BC in the Fireside Room on Nov. 7.

Oildale author visits BC

By **KATHERINE J. WHITE**
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Sports editor

He tested into "bonehead English" at Bakersfield College and later flunked out of BC.

However, Oildale-born and raised Gerald Haslam is now a published author with over 28 books of nonfiction essays, short-story collections and novels to his credit as well as numerous literary honors.

These honors include the 2006 Josephine Miles Award from the PEN organization in Oakland for a compilation of his fiction and nonfiction works titled "Haslam's Valley," the 2001 Western States Book Award for his novel "Straight White Male," the 2005 Ralph Gleason Award from "Rolling Stone" magazine, BMI and New York University for his book "Workin' Man's Blues: Country Music in California" and many others.

In 1998, Haslam was anointed with the appellation of Laureate of the San Francisco Public Library. His latest novel is "Grace Period," about an aging Catholic newspaperman with prostate cancer who falls for a doctor with breast cancer.

The first Visiting Eminent Scholar in the Humanities for the Norman Levan Center for the Humanities, Haslam worked as a professor of English at Sonoma State University from 1967-1997. The

See **HASLAM**, Page 2

'B' grade does not put a stop to eating

■ According to FACE chair Pat Coyle, the 'B' grade given to the cafeteria has nothing to do with the food quality and is sanitary.

By **STEVEN C. VOGEL**
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Rip staff writer

As Bakersfield College students rush from class to class throughout the day, week after week, some insist that it becomes difficult to squeeze in a few extra minutes between classes to grab a bite to eat.

Following a recent inspection by the Kern County Health Department, the BC cafeteria received a B rating.

The Renegade Room, the on-campus restaurant run by BC culinary arts students, received an A.

"I was a little concerned when I

first saw the B rating, but I got over it pretty quick. The food is still good and I haven't gotten sick yet. I still plan on eating here regularly because I don't have time to go off campus between classes," said communication major Natalie Douglas.

BC's Food Services Manager Chef Alex Gomez declined comment to the Rip regarding the recent health inspection and B rating.

According to Pat Coyle, department chair of the Family and Consumer Education Department, BC's B health rating is due to the age and condition of the cafeteria building and is not based upon unsanitary conditions.

"The B rating was given due to the age and deterioration of the campus buildings. It has nothing to do with the safety or quality of food," said Coyle.

The Kern County Health Department conducts annual inspections of restaurants and cafeterias throughout

the county.

The Panorama Grill, Renegade Grill and the Renegade Room will be re-inspected in early November of next year.

According to Coyle, BC is in the beginning stages of remodeling the entire Campus Center, which includes a full revamp of the cafeteria.

"I am sure that as soon as the proper renovations are made on the cafeteria buildings, they will receive an A. It is very safe to eat in the cafeteria. This isn't about sanitation," said Coyle.

Reaction from BC students have been mixed. Some began to alter their eating habits, while others continue to chow down on burgers, sandwiches, salads and other cafeteria offerings.

"If I can eat an egg salad sandwich every day and not get sick, it's cool. I'll continue eating here until I get sick," said Kristine Seardsley.

Although some students continue to make daily visits to the cafeteria,

others have found alternate eatery establishments off campus.

"It will definitely change my eating habits. It [B rating] gives students the impression that the cafeteria is dirty and unsanitary," said nursing student Trishie Hernandez.

According to BC student Jeff Orton, who works as an assistant manager at a local "A" rated Subway, the grading system indicates the level of proper sanitation and food preparation within the food service industry.

"Coming from a place that is highly sanitized and safe, it is kind of disturbing to me. I may not eat here as much as I have in the past," said Orton.

The BC cafeteria is open Monday-Friday during class times.

Reservations for the Renegade Room may be obtained by contacting the BC Culinary Arts Department via phone at 395-4441.

"I am kind of surprised by the 'B' rating. I'm eating in the cafeteria less



LISA VARGAS / THE RIP

BC student Donovan Smith, biology major, takes food that he purchased from the BC cafeteria outside to eat.

and plan to do so until the grade is improved," said liberal studies major Maricela Sanchez.

Accreditation team visits BC to check progress

By KATHERINE J. WHITE
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Sports editor

Once again, Bakersfield College was visited by a team representing the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

The team was headed by Chancellor Jerome Hunter, from the North Orange County Community College District, to evaluate the progress BC has made in acting upon the recommendations that the team suggested to BC after reaffirming BC's accredited status. BC was reaffirmed after the Oct. 23-26, 2006, visiting team report, and BC's self-study report, were reviewed by the Commission.

BC was then obligated to send the Commission a progress report by Oct. 15, 2007. BC had been informed in the Commission's Jan. 31, 2007 letter of only district-wide recommendations; however, on March 22, 2007, the Commission sent BC an amended letter containing recommendations specific to BC, which indicated areas that needed improvement. Work on the recommendations began in late August 2007.

In recommendation 3, the accrediting team asked that the overall district-wide "strategic plan" be employed to control BC's general aims and goals as well as requesting that BC develop and use its educational master plan.

In his summation in BC's Fireside Room, Dr. Hunter commented that

the educational master plan did not appear to be in current use; however, it appeared to him to be in a state of development.

Recommendation 1 addressed the many planning procedures.

This includes training on the implementation of information in "unit planning and program review." This recommendation suggests fixing an implementation deadline.

Recommendation 4 was discussed in the Fireside Room by both faculty chairs and directors of council, and concerned installing firm communication lines between the areas of curriculum, program review, assessment, campus procedures and budget plans.

Furthermore, recommendation 4 states that BC should start an insti-

tutionalized way for conveying data on programs and budgets in an unobstructed manner. To this recommendation, Sue Vaughn, director of BC's admissions and records department, who supervises mainly classified staff, stated that the "classified staff seems better informed now than they have been in the past."

At the conclusion of the discussion of recommendation 4, Vice President of Academic Affairs Ed Knudson cautioned the attending faculty chairs to be very prudent in spending and to work in tight collaboration with their deans.

Recommendation 6 asked that BC institute a planning code that will completely address staffing requests.

This recommendation also states

that BC must be flexible in regards to the shifts in service department demographics.

To recommendation 6, Andrews said that BC wants to "better mirror our student body population by individuals selected" for employment.

Most BC students understand that BC must receive and maintain an accredited status, or the classes they are taking will not transfer to other institutions.

Many BC students take it for granted that BC will never have a problem staying accredited; some students did not realize that there was an accrediting procedure that community colleges must undergo.

"I never gave it any thought really, but it makes sense to have a process like that," said Michael Waite, 21,

philosophy major. "We shouldn't have a problem."

"I never crossed my mind that BC would ever be considered not good enough to be accredited," said Chris Munoz, 31, business administration and music major.

Delan Ortiz, 19, nursing major, mentioned that she knew of a California community college student who was attending a community college that was not accredited and was not able to transfer the credits from that college. She admitted she was horrified.

"BC better get accredited because I need to transfer," said Victoria Beaudette, 23, business administration and economics major.

"I'm not taking all these Gen. Ed. classes for nothing!"

Writers' strike will have little effect on studios

By MARCINDA COIL
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Features editor

The Writers Guild of America strike affects the people, the writers, the television and movie industries' employees and television itself; however, the strike does not affect the studios.

"The studios can last a lot longer time than the rest of the industry," said Bakersfield College professor Kathryn Butterfield-Davis, film studies.

According to Davis, General Electric owns NBC and Viacom owns Paramount.

"These studios are only one source of income. 'Film and television programs are a measurable part of their business, but not their only business.' FOX, which is part of Rupert Murdoch's business, has more to gain from the strike.

"(FOX) are welcoming the strike because they're saving monies by ending all the projects they didn't really want to do anyway," said Davis.

"Force majeure" is a term used to describe the process of backing out on projects because it is a "hard-ship" and, according to Davis, FOX invoked this power the second day of the strike. "So they had this planned ahead." Also, according to Davis, FOX is in the lead when it comes to reality show programming.

Though reality TV is guided by some writers, they are not unionized under WGA. This fact was also discussed between the WGA and Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers, however, perhaps too late.

While scripted shows are shutting down and the industries' employees such as actors and post-production companies face losing their jobs, reality TV and primetime sports will eventually reign over television.

"They (FOX) have everything to gain and nothing to lose," said Davis.

According to Davis, writers must be on strike for a year before there is an impact on studios. Because of the

stockpile of scripts gathered last minute and those that sat on a dusty shelf for quite some time, studios have enough scripts to last them awhile.

Davis also believes that public pressure could possibly speed up negotiations.

According to a statement from WGA West President Patrick M. Verrone on their website, a poll conducted by Pepperdine University found that 63 percent of American people support the strike, four percent support the conglomerates and 33 percent had no opinion.

"I think it's necessary. The writers need to be paid for any type of output that their work is being used in," said BC English major Briana Carrillo, 22.

"I believe the strike is reasonable, but it has to come to a point of agreement before it gets out of hand," explains BC English/theater major Drew Hallum, 21.

"If it continues, I see more people within television/movie industries striking and asking for royalties as well."

Although history major Derek Hammond, 22, did not know the details of the strike, he offered an opinion: "These writers are wimps. They just need to shut up and do their job like everybody else. They don't have it that hard, they are writers so they just need to write and be happy."

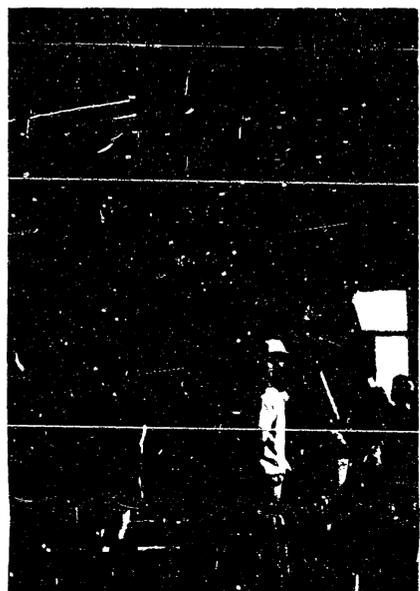
Several other students either did not know about the strike or did not know about its details.

According to information gathered from both the WGA West Web site and AMPPT's Web site, the WGA is asking for residuals on new media formats, which are downloads from the Internet, cell phones, etc.

"Writers currently do receive residuals for digital downloading (regardless of whether the download is temporary or permanent)," said AMPPT President Nick Couter.

According to Couter, the WGA seeks to increase residuals by impossible standards and seeks to gain monies through Internet site owners' revenues in advertising, though "producers are getting none of that money themselves."

According to the New York Times



LISA VARGAS / THE RIP

The Writers Guild of America and their supporters protest against unfair new media residuals in front of NBC studios on Nov. 12.

However, according to the WGA, they are not informed about the specifics of residuals on new media formats and there are other practices that AMPPT participates in, which affects WGA members.

According to the guild in a Nov. 5 New York Times article, since the 1988 writers' strike, WGA jobs with in television and films have dropped from 95 percent to 55 percent because of the production of animation and reality TV.

"Studios have a history of being fearful of ... any new technology," said Davis.

"So over the years, they wouldn't promise anything to their writers, as far as them getting a piece of the profit from the new technology, saying they'll make it up to them later, but never do."

According to Davis, most writers do not make that much money. "So the decision to strike had to be a huge one for them."

According to the New York Times

article, 12,000 members of the WGA are television writers/producers "who take up to \$5 million a year."

However, junior writers "make \$50,000 or less," which equates with the average income of Los Angeles workers.

"About 48 percent of West Coast members (of the WGA) are unemployed."

Though the guild does hold \$12 million in strike fund assistance, writers, if they qualify, must repay their loan within 180 days after the strike officially ends.

"The majority of writers are barely making a living, and the majority of writers' careers are very short-lived," said former president of the WGA East and "Late Night With Conan O'Brien" writer Chris Albers in the article.

"Most writers are not rich at all," stated Davis, "and will never be able to dig out from the financial hole they'll be in by the end of the strike."

made by the Board of Trustees.

"When you have people who train for a position like president, they don't understand what it's like to be in the classroom," said Gerhold.

"The search committee will look for someone with faculty experience."

"... the lack of communication is what the department is upset about"

— Michael Ivey, Business Department Chair

Continued from Page 1

State University in Las Cruces, N.M. Andrews became president of BC in 2005 after serving as the president for Porterville College from 2000-2005. "I saw myself as a dean or director of learning resources in 1974-1988," said Andrews.

"Then I shifted to institutional resource and planning. Then as vice president of instruction at Sedgwick College, I did what was normal for vice presidents to do. I decided to be in charge. More often than not, we evolve."

What will follow Andrew's announcement to retire is an application process that involves looking for candidates to fill the position from across the nation.

According to Gerhold, three or four faculty members from the senate will help in the process, though the final choice for president will be

made by the Board of Trustees.

"The president promised he would get together with the business department and discuss the courses that would be displaced," said Gerhold. "He said they would have the decision for the replacement of the Technology Lab by Christmas, so we didn't want to vote on the resolution and hoped they made good on their promise."

The meeting on Oct. 17 was a special meeting where Andrews, Knudson and Levan Center Director Jack Hernandez were invited to attend.

ANDREWS: BC must begin application process for new president

Continued from Page 1

Day to day, our dependence on technology is ever present. Among other things, we rely on technology for transportation, communication and even food storage and preparation.

Campus life is no different. The majority of the Bakersfield College campus departments are unable to function properly without their machines and the electricity that powers them.

If the Grace Van Dyke Byrd Library loses power, there is no back-

up system for checking out books. There is no card index for finding books either. The library catalog system is computerized.

The same can be said for Food Services, the bookstore, Public Safety and many other departments at BC.

Alex Gomez, Food Services manager, said that if the electricity goes out in the cafeteria that they would have to shut down and close the doors "for the safety of the staff and students."

All of the refrigerators in the kitchen are electrical, Gomez said.

"We're had power out before and we make sure that the refrigerator doors don't get opened and closed.

We keep them shut so that they can keep the coldest temperature until it's restored."

"In the past, before I was here, they actually had to bring generators and hook them up to keep the big refrigerators going, so the food didn't spoil."

According to Jennifer Caughron, the bookstore manager, when the power goes out, "we close our doors, which [are] also electric," said Caughron. "So we have a manual switch that will bring it down."

"Our phones still work, but everything else is dead to the world."

"It shuts our text book system down. It shuts our computers down,

our registers and our lights. So we're real dependent on technology," said Caughron.

According to Chief of Public Safety Mark Graf, the Internet, radios, car radios, electronic parking systems and the Code Blue phones are all equally important to Public Safety's operations and are all dependent on electricity.

Graf said that when the power is out, they resort to using cell phones to communicate with each other.

"Without cell phones, we'd have to be really innovative," said Graf. "It would be difficult but not impossible. We'd still function, and hope that the power comes back on."

LEVAN CENTER: Administrators had special meeting on Oct. 17 to make plans for displaced classrooms

The occupants of the meeting discussed the entire issue, and Andrews discussed the decision-making process in choosing the Levan Center location.

After the meeting, the senate came to a resolution. "We realize that the decision to put the Levan Center in B-19 was a very open," said Gerhold. "In fact, the president apologized for not leaving open, and committed to future decisions being more open."

The decision was on the executive level and Andrews ultimately had the

final say. The faculty of the business department has no objection to the center and sees it as a wonderful gift.

"It's not about the center, or the place of the center," Dr. Levan, said Ivey, "we are very grateful, but the lack of communication is what the department is upset about."

"I could do it over I would have called them together over the summer," said Andrews. "I would have called them together and informed them of my decision and talked about it."

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HASLAM: Writer finds 'cultural richness' in Central Valley

Continued from Page 1

Eminent Scholars program is a continuing series.

The self-proclaimed troubadour for the unsung California Central Valley, Garces High School and BC graduate Haslam is a prolific writer, and he admitted during his lecture Nov. 7 at BC's Fireside Room about his life and work that he is not a genius.

"I don't have great soaring talent, but I have persistence," Haslam said.

Haslam talked at length about the overlooked and underrated California Central Valley and how the Central Valley does not fit the accepted notion of the California of popular culture.

Haslam at some point became interested in celebrating the cultural richness he believes that he found in the Central Valley after noting that the area was less frequently written about.

Haslam believes that focusing on the Central Valley's cultural richness and the complex layers of human civilization is a God-forsaken cultural wasteland with just 300 varieties of crops, a dearth of palm trees and no beaches.

"There are cultures bumping up against each other here," Haslam said. "This is the absolute core of California," he said. More than 100 languages are spoken in the Central Valley, Haslam said.

He also noted that a number of poets including Gary Soto and Robert Diazan had emerged from California, but there were few California short-story writers and novelists.

Out of his concern for Central Valley recognition and the need for a wider California literary base, emerged Haslam's short story "Doll," written in the 1990s, which focused on the negative attitude about California's "Oakies," and other names and words such as "The Great Tejon Club Jubilee," as well as nonfiction essay collections including "The Great Central Valley: California's Heartland" and "The Other California: The Great Central Valley in Life and Letters."

"I've barely scratched the surface of what's here," Haslam said of his work delimiting the cultural complexities of the Central Valley.

Haslam admitted he listened to conversations everywhere he goes in the Central Valley, and he is a persistent observer and note taker. He even looks at tattoos and reads the bumper stickers on cars.

During the lecture, he remarked that one difference between the Bay Area and the Central Valley is that expensive Bay Area cars often have "Free Tibet" stickers, and Central Valley cars typically have stickers that concern the Kapurpe and the right to bear arms.

Haslam frequently haunts Central Valley bars, restaurants, and honky-tonk bars and was even part of

the campaign to save the old Blackboard bar from being demolished.

Haslam mentioned that when he was growing up in Oildale, he lived across the street from Ralph Trout who owns Trout's bar in Oildale.

Once in Bakersfield's old Casa Royale restaurant, he observed, and later described in a short story, a patron as having "a face gouged from metal." Another time in the same restaurant, Haslam said he watched elderly couples dancing in the "clutch and hug" style.

Haslam noted that one elderly man was dancing with a woman who had no legs; apparently the man managed this by holding the woman's posterior. A part of one of the many bar conversations Haslam has heard over the years, which wound up in a short story of his, ran something like this: "Carpe diem. What's that?" "Fish of the Day," someone in the bar answered. As Haslam's audience chuckled, Haslam quipped, "Someone should have said, 'That means, Carp of the Day.'"

Haslam also described a barbershop conversation he overheard between two patrons. One of the patrons sported an arm tattoo that said, "Cool ass."

"Cause my daddy was a Cajun," the tattooed man said. "It should have said, 'Dumb ass,'" the other remarked.

Haslam also described the time when he was visiting someone at Mercy Hospital, and he overheard a dying elderly woman in one of the rooms bawl to a relative: "You're feet stink, and you don't love your Jesus!"

"Some things you can't make up," Haslam said. Haslam has jotted down these and other anecdotes in small notepads and sometimes even on toilet paper and on the edges of newspapers.

He routinely carries a small notepad, his "palm pilot," as he puts it, in the pocket of his shirt. During his presentation, he displayed his current pad in a blue-checked shirt pocket.

In his home in Napa Valley, he has at least 4,500 quarter-full pads containing, he says, 40 years of observations and thoughts.

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BC depends on technology to operate

By KYLE BEALL
kbeall@bakersfieldcollege.edu
Copy editor

Day to day, our dependence on technology is ever present. Among other things, we rely on technology for transportation, communication and even food storage and preparation.

Campus life is no different. The majority of the Bakersfield College campus departments are unable to function properly without their machines and the electricity that powers them.

If the Grace Van Dyke Byrd Library loses power, there is no back-

THE PLUG

The future, the inventions, the TECHNOLOGY

Tech more than machines

By MARYANN KOPP
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Rip staff writer

The future of technology covers a very wide spectrum of topics, many of which might not even occur to most people when considering the subject.

"When the word technology is used," begins Jason Dixon, professor of machining and manufacturing in Bakersfield College's Industrial Technology Department, "often times people imply that it is synonymous with computers. That is not necessarily technology."

Dixon went on to explain the etymology of the word "technology" as coming from the Greek word "tekhnologia," which means "craftsmanship or skilled worker, originally relating to carpenters."

While acknowledging that computers are, indeed, a form of technology, Dixon says that they are not the actual definition at all.

"Tools used for building a home, manufacturing a metal part or for taking raw crude oil and turning it into a number of products, be it fuel, lubricating greases, or plastics, are also a form of technology," said Dixon.

I.T. Dean Bob Tuttle believes that the American society, as far as careers in trade and the future of technology are concerned, has "dropped the ball."

"Our society does not put enough emphasis on trade skills in high school," stated Tuttle. "As a consequence, most of the high school programs in such areas have been shut down, and the local industry is crying the blues."

Dixon concurs by saying that another common misconception concerning technology has to do with "automation," and that people assume that trade skills are no longer needed because machines will be doing everything for us in the future.

"A lot of people think that computer-controlled machines will completely replace manual machines someday, but manual machines are still needed," asserts Dixon. "I'm always going to be producing machinists."

"There is that perspective that computer controlled machines will replace manual machines, yet we are suffering from a shortage of machinists here in Kern County."

Tuttle touched upon nanotechnology, or the science of building different devices from single molecules or atoms.

"There are some exciting possibilities concerning nanotechnology," said Tuttle. "Stain-resistant clothing is a result of nanotechnology, and that is just a millionth of what nanotechnology has to offer."

One of the most recent findings in nanotechnology is inside the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Technology Review, in Prachi Patel-Predh's article "The World's Smallest Radio," which is, in fact, a radio that is made out of a single nanotube.

According to the article, "researchers have fashioned the world's tiniest radio out of a carbon nanotube. The nanotube, placed between two electrodes, combines the roles of all the major electrical components in a radio, including the tuner and amplifier."

It can tune into a radio signal and play the audio through an external speaker."

Heading the development of the nanotube radio is UC Berkeley experimental physicist, Alex Zettl, who explained that the nanotube is able to take four different functioning parts of any given radio (the antenna, amplifier, demodulator and tuner) and combine it into one nanotube.

Zettl also said that such a finding was "a revelation."

Developments in biotechnology have made some interesting headlines, including a recently-developed crop that is supposed to kill crop-destroying insects via "RNA interference."

Katherine Bourzac's article in Technology Review states that RNA interference is "a process whereby double-stranded RNA copies of specific genes prevent cells from translating those genes into proteins."

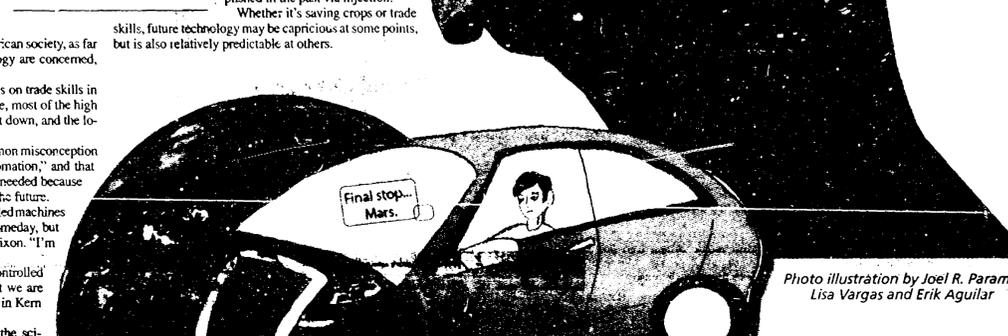
The finding is considerable as such a process could only be accomplished in the past via injection.

Whether it's saving crops or trade skills, future technology may be capricious at some points, but is also relatively predictable at others.

"Tools used for building a home, manufacturing a metal part or for taking raw crude oil... are also a form of technology."

— Jason Dixon, BC professor of machining and manufacturing

Photo illustration by Joel R. Paramo, Lisa Vargas and Erik Aguilar



Each cell phone carrier is different

By CRYSTAL ROBERTS
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Rip staff writer

With the ever-expanding scope of technology, cell phones have become a necessity, especially for a college student.

AT&T, T-Mobile and Verizon Wireless are the three largest cell phone networks available in the United States and always make claims that they are the best.

BC student Donald Glenn explained that his cell phone service is with Verizon Wireless and that he generally likes it.

"I always have reception wherever I go," said Glenn, "and Verizon stores are huge. I can make a payment in a machine on the side, or if I'm having problems with my phone, they have a little area for that. It's like a department store for phones."

Glenn explained that the only thing he doesn't like about Verizon is that "they don't have cool phones. They'll come out with one every once in a while."

Glenn explained that he wanted to get the iPhone, but it's not available through AT&T for the time being, but decided not to switch because Verizon is coming out with a new phone. On average, Glenn pays about \$60 dollars per month for his service.

Verizon Wireless is known for being the only major carrier with a 30-day network coverage pledge that pays for calls if a customer isn't satisfied with the service in another carrier. Verizon Wireless was also named "Best Wireless Service Provider in the World" by Business Traveler magazine in 2006, according to the Verizon wireless office website.

T-Mobile is a newer phone service that became available in the United States in 2002. According to the T-Mobile website, T-Mobile

Bluetooth for hands-free talking

By RIGO VILLALOBOS
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Rip staff writer

The Bluetooth technology is a short-range communications device that was intended to replace the wires that connect certain portable and many other types of devices.

But unfortunately, many college students use it in classrooms for personal and social purposes, rather than maintaining high levels of security for people, especially while driving, as it was intended.

For instance, many students have been using the Bluetooth in class, much to the ire of many instructors.

"I had a student who came in with one. I just simply don't approve of them," said Debbie Cantrell, a Bakersfield College academic development adviser.

"Nowadays, many students use the Bluetooth in class rather than paying attention to their instructor. It's hard to be in two places in one," said Susan Pinza, another academic development adviser.

According to a BC reference librarian Nancy Guidry, there have been times when students have used the Bluetooth in the library who have been asked to stop using it for regulation purposes. However, so far, many students have been compliant.

"Sometimes we feel like we are the police, but sometimes, our job is to constantly monitor behavior," said Guidry.

Also, Guidry said that the Grace

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the occupants of the meeting discussed the entire issue, and Andrews discussed the decision-making process in choosing the Levan Center location.

After the meeting, the senate came to a resolution. "We realize that the decision to put the Levan Center in B-19 was a very open," said Gerhold. "In fact, the president apologized for not leaving open, and committed to future decisions being more open."

The decision was on the executive level and Andrews ultimately had the

final say. The faculty of the business department has no objection to the center and sees it as a wonderful gift.

"It's not about the center, or the place of the center," Dr. Levan, said Ivey, "we are very grateful, but the lack of communication is what the department is upset about."

"I could do it over I would have called them together over the summer," said Andrews. "I would have called them together and informed them of my decision and talked about it."

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FEATURES

Bouncers bounce back at the Dome

Coheed and Cambria, The Fall of Troy and From Ritual to Romance visits The Dome on Nov. 12, sparking a somewhat unruly and excited audience.

By **MARCINDA COIL**
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Features editor

Bouncers were kept busy at The Dome when Coheed and Cambria took the stage Nov. 12, along with The Fall of Troy and Bakersfield locals From Ritual to Romance.

During The Fall of Troy performance, one guy began the chaos by being carried by the audience. Each time his destination was in the hands of bouncers. After his fourth time, he was escorted out of The Dome. Another guy was escorted out by his friend after nearly fainting inside of a mosh pit and a young woman had to be pulled out because of the moshing.

However, many were not discouraged, not even the lead singer of The Fall of Troy. After his outrageous performance, which featured him spitting high into the air and then catching it, he ended his last vocal by standing on top of the audience, much like walking on water.

Afterward, people got impatient as they chanted "Coheed, Coheed," but soon, people stormed in and roared when Coheed and Cambria began to play.

Coheed and Cambria began with songs from their new album "No World For Tomorrow," which was released Oct. 23. "No World For Tomorrow" is the last episode of "The Armory Wars," a storyline



ALLY ARMSTRONG / THE RIP

Coheed and Cambria's Travis Stever, left, and Claudio Sanchez, right, perform for fans by singing and playing guitar at The Dome Nov. 12.

written by lead singer Claudio Sanchez that consists of two main characters: Coheed and Cambria. This album is dedicated to Sanchez's aunt Antonia Cristiano, who died last year due to complications related to Alzheimer's disease.

One performance included the song "The Running Free," however, it was saved toward the middle of the concert, building anticipation amongst the audience. Besides previous hits that the audience cheered for and sang along with, there were "The Reaping," "Feathers," "Mother Superior" and "The End Complete."

People chanted, clapped and stomped just before they came back out with their finale.

The finale, which was a solo project, was far different from any song played that night at The

Dome. The song featured extended instrumental solos. Sanchez's guitar solos had him playing the guitar above his head with what seemed to be his teeth. Guitarist Travis Stever also showed off with his guitar solo. Then they left the stage, leaving the keyboardist and bass guitarist Michael Todd to each do their solos. The audience cheered for Todd's solo. After they left the stage, it was up to drummer Chris Pennie to wrap it up with his solo. However, the song was not finished yet. The rest of the band members returned to the stage to help out Pennie in wrapping up the song.

Though Coheed and Cambria's tour ended in California that night, their tour continues in places such as South Carolina on Nov. 21 and Washington D.C. on Nov. 25.

Book bill to ease students' burdens

Gov. Schwarzenegger signs a bill that forces textbook publishers to meet requirements.

By **RIGO VILLALOBOS**
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Rip staff writer

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger has finally signed Assembly Bill 1548.

AB 1548, also known as the Transparency in College Textbook Publishing Practices Act, will now forbid the sale of any college textbook at public colleges until publishers meet certain requirements that will make things easier for students to afford the textbooks.

This bill has become good news to many people at Bakersfield College. "Anything that helps with book prices is anybody's goal," said Jennifer Caughron, the BC bookstore manager.

"Hopefully, with this, everything becomes easier for students, because it's difficult for them to buy textbooks, and it makes me feel bad," stated Caughron.

"Each publisher has its own title in textbooks and there is no choice for them to go to places like Wal-Mart or Kmart," said Caughron.

Assemblyman Jose Solorio created the bill with the main purpose of having the publishing companies provide public colleges and universities with specific information about textbooks.

Changes in textbook prices might not be noticed instantly, but as Caughron said, "We feel the impact here a lot, and I'd love to see a change."

"This bill is awesome," said David White, 20. "Anything that has to do

with dropping or keeping books at a good price will help because I really hate to know how much I spend throughout the year in books rather than on some other things that I really need."

Through this bill, it is expected that publishing companies must give professors the choice of which books to use, as well as to estimate how long textbook editions will remain in print, the differences between editions and how much compensation a faculty or the administration members could receive for using their books.

"Too bad we do not have the option to regulate the price, but once again, I really think this law is a good solution and it will definitely help," stated Caughron.

Overall, the requirements for publishing companies of this bill are really going to make a difference in some students' lives, said Jeanette Fernandez, 20, a nursing major who has attended BC for three years.

"This is a great idea because some students have to pay for tuition and books, and some have to work for it," she said.

On the other hand, some students think the governor has ulterior motives in passing the bill.

"I don't know, but there's gotta be something underneath this... they will probably raise our taxes or something after this," said BC student Fred Aguiar, 20.

This bill is considered really important to some professors.

Rick Darks, a physics professor, said, "Wow, this is very important. I imagine the good expectations of students to attend classes with this fact. And, it would be easier for every student to buy them in here, rather than going somewhere else and buying them online."

OPINION

CSUB's move to Division I a bad use of funds

By **STEVEN C. VOGEL**
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Rip staff writer

As budget cuts continue to take place across the nation in the arena of education and elsewhere, students are forced to become the target of depressed programs and activities.

Even as educational institutions, at both the collegiate and high school levels, receive excessive cuts to academic, sports programs continue to flourish.

Cal State Bakersfield recently made the jump from Division II to Division I athletics, aiming to improve the overall image of Bakersfield and its institutions of higher learning. Al-

though the image of Bakersfield has begun to improve among the sports world, we have achieved a new image as a city obsessed with athletics and uninterested in academics.

Instead of spending nearly \$66 million to build a new and improved athletic complex to take the place of the Icardo Center and giving a \$26,000 a year raise to CSUB president Dr. Horrace Mitchell, we as a community should choose to invest in the future of our students and embrace their academic goals.

We need to begin to focus on the real reason why institutions of higher education exist.

A young person chooses to pursue an education beyond a high school di-

ploma in order to adequately provide for themselves and their families.

I am in college, first and foremost, to learn a trade and embrace a career, not to be entertained in the stands of a multi-million athletic stadium under the auspicious of an overpaid coaching staff and an over-glamorized football team.

First of all, CSUB has yet to even begin the process of starting a collegiate-level football team.

CSUB athletic director Rudy Carvajal and the entire staff are taking a million dollar risk as they hope and pray that the community of Bakersfield will support and invest in the future of Bakersfield athletics.

The truth of the matter is that the

vast majority of student athletes will take their final bow at the conclusion of their collegiate career.

Quite frankly, the majority of CSUB Division I athletes will never make it to the professional level.

Also, although our football team at Bakersfield College is ranked No. 1 in the nation among junior colleges, the majority of these players are ranked on the bottom of the totem pole in the eyes of the NFL.

There are few exceptions to this general rule.

For example, the Tampa Bay Buccaneers drafted Chris Denman, who played football at Tehachapi High School and Fresno State, in round 7 of the 2007 NFL draft. Denman is an

aspiring professional football player from a small town who has been given a chance to make it big.

I have always believed that a good education is the foundation to success in anything one aspires to achieve.

Athletic programs and extracurricular activities mean little if we lack the wisdom to continue the race toward obtaining a better outlook for our future; that better outlook comes through educational involvement.

My advice to the staff at CSUB and institutions of higher learning across the nation is to focus on the educational programs that make and break the intellectual makeup of our country.

I will be the first to encourage our

young people to pursue higher education and remain focused. While athletics and the programs being proposed at CSUB may provide temporary satisfaction and glory for involved parties, ignorance will haunt them for a lifetime if those without administrative higher arches fail to focus on the academic well-being of their students.

The shift in focus and priority from academia to athletics is perhaps what has caused the leadership of our country to step to a level of ignorance rather than intellect.

I implore CSUB to respect the history of intellectualism that has made the United States a leader among the free world.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

'Shame On' an outlet for a union squabble

Editor:

They're so numerous now that it's impossible to miss their activities. I'm referring to the Carpenters' Union's "Shame On" picketing campaigns that have sprung up around the city of Bakersfield over the course of the past two years.

By the looks of all this activity, one can only surmise that there must be a lot of shameful contractors doing business in Bakersfield.

But the truth of the matter is that all of the "Shame On" coming from one entity, Carpenters Union, Local 1506.

It would appear that the Carpenters Union, Local 1506, has decided that too few jobs are coming their way in Bakersfield.

As a solution, they have launched "Shame On" campaigns against local businesses.

They make the irrelevant claim that the businesses they are picketing have hired contractors that do not pay prevailing wages (union wages) to all of their employees.

Let's clear up that misconception right away.

Prevailing wages and benefits are required on any projects that receive local, state or federal funding. It's the law.

The carpenters' campaign signage and literature fails to make the distinction between labor on public works projects and that of private work.

The contractors in question do a combination of public and private work. In essence, they are required to pay prevailing wages on the public work but not on the private.

But in practice, many of the contractors being picketed are actually

paying well above prevailing wages on their public contracts because they are using their most senior labor and that labor is generally making more than even the prevailing wage.

So, the carpenters are not only misleading the public on the issue, not even the basis for their claim is accurate. Another excellent point, one that has been pointed out by others, is that the carpenters are actually paying minimum wage (or just above the minimum wage) to pickets they have hired to stand in front of the innocent businesses with those ridiculous signs to hand out ridiculous literature (one has an image depicting the nonunion contractors as a rat eating a American flag).

The purpose of this heinous assault on good businesses is not entirely clear. But the fact that the Carpenters Union and the local Drywall Union have been at odds over just which unions would be allowed to work in drywall may have something to do with it.

One thing is for sure, though. This effort is an attempt to indirectly blackmail nonunion drywallers into joining the union lest they be forced out altogether. What is also interesting is that Carpenters Local 1506 isn't even the official Carpenters Union for the Bakersfield area (that is Local Union 743). Local 1506, headquartered in Los Angeles, is conducting dozens of "Shame On" campaigns, some as far away as Phoenix, Ariz.

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Classrooms before pews

The Kern High School District Board of Trustees' decision to put a poster with the phrase "In God We Trust" in every KHSD classroom is not only a step back from the tenets of religious sovereignty that this nation was founded on, but a waste of time and expense that could be better spent on serving the needs of Kern County high school students.

High schools are designed to prepare students for the responsibilities in their future. It is not meant to be a platform for religious indoctrination.

The proposal is indicative of trustee/preacher Chad Vegas' insistence on pushing his Christian agenda rather than focusing on the educational needs of students.

While he may state that his proposal was not in an effort to force religion on people, his past proposal to change the name of winter and spring breaks to Christmas and Easter breaks and his desire to see intelligent design taught in classrooms nullifies that line of justification.

For the purposes of civic education, the approved poster, amended to include the American Constitution and Declaration of Independence as part of a compromise from those opposed to the original poster by the American Family Association, accomplishes nothing. If people aren't going to be motivated to learn government by a textbook or a teacher's lecture, a controversial poster will be nothing more than a text-heavy eyesore.

Instead of legislating about a poster for an entire evening, the board could've been discussing how to raise test scores and teach students the basic skills they need to know in order to lead successful lives. How are students going to know what the poster says if they don't know how to read?

The \$12,000 cost of making these large laminated posters and placing them in every classroom could have been used for funding a field trip for government and history classes, which would've been a much more effective tool for getting students motivated in civic education.

When Vegas comes up for re-election in 2008, he should be replaced by someone who has the best interests of students at heart. The Board of Trustees cannot continue forcing their own ideologies on students while claiming to represent them.

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ALLY ARMSTRONG / THE RIP

Argentina's first female president has a royally democratic image

By **RIGO VILLALOBOS**
rvillal@bakersfieldcollege.edu
Rip staff writer

Powerful women are nothing new to Argentina, but Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner becoming the nation's first elected female president has started a major debate among Argentines.

The 54-year-old Kirchner has now become the second woman elected president of a South American nation

in the past two years, joining Chile's Michelle Bachelet.

Argentina had a good female president in Isabel Martinez de Peron, who took her husband's place after his death, but she was never elected and simply filled up the missing gap her husband left.

Cristina will be taking her husband Nestor Kirchner's place as president, but her husband is still alive, and she was actually elected.

Kirchner, who takes office on Dec.

10, already has a great deal of presidential experience.

She was instrumental as First Lady in working behind the scenes to make the big political decisions during Nestor's current term.

The big question being asked now is whether or not Argentina's politics will change or stay the same, as Kirchner is from the same Argentine executive branch currently in office.

Nestor managed to pull Argentina out of a devastating economic crisis

in 2001, so perhaps Cristina will be able to further uplift the Argentine people.

However, now that she is in a position of great power, she could lose her glamorous image and focus on, appeasing herself and others. It's too early to tell.

Even though she hasn't been sworn in yet, I believe Kirchner will probably do the right thing in moments of crisis as her husband did in 2001.

Kirchner seems to have a cold de-

meanor when giving speeches, but has a very demanding style of communication, especially with body language and facial expression.

Excluding her "coldness," Kirchner has a glamorous image and looks very elegant in designer clothes. It's because she definitely thinks she has a nice physical appearance, especially for her age.

Her Barbie image has caused many to refer to her as "Reyna Cristina" (Queen Cristina).

Her Barbie image has caused many to refer to her as "Reyna Cristina" (Queen Cristina).

This is appropriate, as her long brown hair and glamorous style give her an immaculate image.

Winning 44.9 percent of the popular vote means that the people of Argentina believe in her. Her people's approval, in turn, helps her believe in herself.

Kirchner's skills as a lawyer, a senator, a First Lady, and now president-elect of Argentina, will demonstrate that she can do as good or better of a job than a male president.

Kirchner's skills as a lawyer, a senator, a First Lady, and now president-elect of Argentina, will demonstrate that she can do as good or better of a job than a male president.

'Topdog/Underdog' under way at BC

ERIK AGUILAR / THE RIP

Dashawn Anton Robert Clark (Booth), left, and Stefan Lambert (Lincoln) rehearse for "Topdog/Underdog," scheduled to play Nov. 29-30, Dec. 1 and 6-8 at BC's Indoor Theater.

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RSS

CalWORKS gives BC families gifts and hope for the holidays

By **MARYANN KOPP**
mkopp@bakersfieldcollege.edu
Rip staff writer

Bakersfield College's CalWORKS/Care Programs are providing participants of the programs and their families with food and gift baskets for Thanksgiving and Christmas through various means.

"We have had bake sales, canned food drives, and we teamed up with The Valley Plaza to sell Festival of Giving tickets, from which we get to keep the funds received," said CalWORKS job development specialist Antonio Alfaro. "By doing this, the participants can experience what most people take for granted."

While most of the Thanksgiving baskets have been put together, there is still a need for some food and for donations for the Christmas holiday.

"What we need more than anything is the support of the BC campus," said Alfaro.

BC students can help by donating canned food, money and unwrapped gifts. The programs have also erected a Christmas tree in the CalWORKS/Care office area and decorated it with paper ornaments.

"The ornaments have the name of a child on it, and their age," stated Alfaro. "People can come and adopt a child by taking an ornament and buying appropriate Christmas gifts."

There are currently 347 needy children with whom the programs would like to provide a gift and food basket in addition to the Christmas party they throw for them each year.

Alfaro emphasizes that these efforts would not be possible without the support they receive from BC, in general. "We appreciate all of the support and the tremendous amount of help that the BC campus has afforded us. Thank you very much."

All donations must be in by Friday Nov. 30th at noon.

Those interested in donating via canned goods or adopting a child can do so by visiting the CalWORKS/Care office, located on the second floor of the Student Services Building.

For information on monetary or gift donations, contact Meni Renee Lopez at the EOFS office at 395-4836 (mrenee@bakersfieldcollege.edu) or Yolanda Gonzalez at the CalWORKS office at 395-4047 (yosaneh@bakersfieldcollege.edu).

'GADE FEEDBACK

What is your favorite television program?

- Ben Esposito, engineering: "I don't watch TV that much."
- Alex Mitts, English: "Heroes."
- Kel Ary, architecture: "Fresh Prince of Bel-Air" because Will Smith is funny."
- Kevin Bush, electrical engineering: "CBS and Park."
- Amber Benjamin, student development: "Probably 'Scrubs'."
- George Gonzaga, architecture: "I just don't (watch TV) with school, working and everything else in between."

THE RENEGADE RIP

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

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

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REVIEWS

Eek-A-Mouse's album 'Wa-Do-Dem' was a pioneer

By CHRIS GARZA
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Rip staff writer

Eek-A-Mouse is a fantastical reggae artist and has released over 16 albums in a career that continues to this day. But the album that solidified his early position in roots royalty was the 1982 release of "Wa-Do-Dem."

Sing-Jay is a type of vocal process that is part bouncy sing-along, part slight skating and part rapping. His signature "Biddy Bong Bong" skat phrase is a tasty ingredient of this recipe.

The instrumentals are played by legendary back-up band The Roots Radics. The Radics have backed up such acts as Bunny Wailer and Don Carlos and just bring a classic reggae rhythmic sound that is combined with dub-like appeal, minus the overdramatization of echo effects. Perfect bass lines are exacted by Flabba Holt and is what makes the music sway. The drum roll half-way through "Long Time Ago" by Styles Scott is

glory for the initiated. The songs are very mellow but still contain an edge that the Mouse is known for. His early albums are very concise of a peaceable notion. He was singing from the soul on this early album as well as another titled "Skidip," which was his next release, but toward the end of his career he began rapping about crack-cocaine and guns and being a gangster.

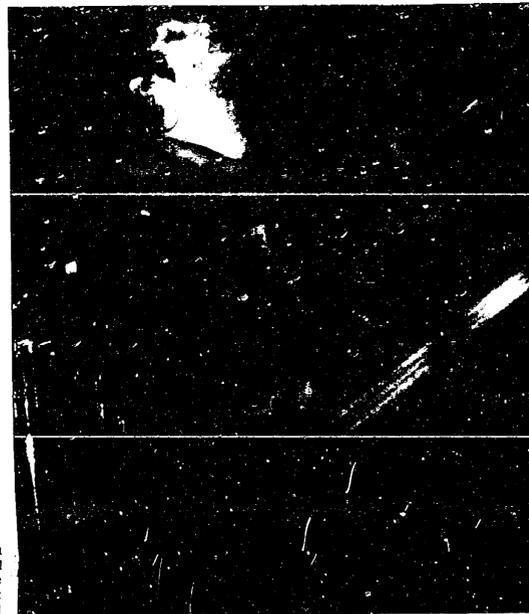
"Wa-Do-Dem" has 10 tracks on it. The opening song, "Ganja Smuggling," is a tireless song. It is the story of a man reflecting back upon a youth of poverty and struggle as he is now smuggling marijuana. As he loads marijuana into a van bound for the plane that is to be flown over to Spain, he looks down and reflects once more. "Me shoes tear up/me toe just a showline no know if a me really want to go. Mama tell me 'No rob drug store/police beat you, make your back sore.'"

"Long Time Ago" is great, and the music performed by The Roots Radics is just amazing, especially Holt's opening bass, as all other instruments are hushed. The Mouse begins with "Let there be night/And let there be day/It's a wonderful world that we live in today/Loving one another/Let the good things be/Life should make you feel so happy." Now I know this seems like a cliché reggae statement, but how can you deny a message like that? Look past statements of abuse as statements of abuse and take them as cliché for a reason, because they work.

Annoying crowd, good show

By KELLY ARDIS
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Rip staff writer

A lot has changed since eighth grade: Different friends, different personality and different style. One thing that hasn't changed is my love for The Starting Line, which came to the Golden State Mall Monday Nov. 12, along with The Almost and 18 other bands for the Rockin' Winterfest.



Kenny Vasoli of The Starting Line rocks out at the Rockin' Winterfest Nov. 12.

I hadn't been to a concert like this in years, as I had mostly grown out of my pop-punk phase. The second I entered the venue, I was reminded why I no longer go to these shows.

The sea of 14-year-old hipsters and obnoxious and inconsiderate mosh pits were enough to make me want to promptly turn around and walk right out the door I had just entered. I had to remind myself why I was there: I do actually like one of the bands playing.

The concert was an all-day event, starting at noon. Most of the "18 other bands" were local bands that all more or less blended together. The two bands that stood out the most of the 20 that played were The Starting Line, of course, and The Almost.

Johnny Rocket's is good, clean food

By RIGO VILLALOBOS
rvillal@bakersfieldcollege.edu
Rip staff writer

Perhaps finding a good hamburger place where guests have to wait a little long to eat their burgers is easy to find because it is in town.

Guests really have to wait a while to eat their food after being served, not because of the fact that it takes long for them to serve the food, they actually do it within a couple of minutes of arrival after ordering, but because the food is so hot that it cannot be eaten instantly.

Johnny Rockets, located on 9000 Ming Ave. in the Marketplace, is the perfect location to eat for numerous reasons.

Prices are really reasonable and some of the servers are extremely nice and polite.

I went to Johnny Rockets on two occasions in a one-week period, and I was amazed of the way my food and I were treated on both occasions.

As soon as we walked in, one of the servers directly spoke to us with a smile on her face, telling us to feel free to seat ourselves at a table.

Until this time, we did not really have any expectations other than it being a typical hamburger place. However, it was decorated differently, very illuminated and as time passed, our perspective about it was very different from many others, due to their great service.

When the time came to order, our server answered every question we asked, including what ingredients can be substituted in their menu.

The average meal is around \$11 with the drink included. I ordered the Smoke House burger, which has cheddar cheese, thick bacon (which I took out because I don't like bacon), crispy onion rings and their special "Smoke House" and barbecue-ranch sauce. It cost around \$7 with tax included, and a regular beverage. Coca-Cola, costs \$2.49 (plus tax).

As with every restaurant, it is very indispensable for the server to keep on checking our table with frequency as they



ERIK AGUIAR/THE RIP
Johnny Rocket's at 9000 Ming Ave. has a vintage atmosphere.

did.

One of the things that I found very unique about this place is the way the ketchup dispenser is served. The ketchup dispenser is a small white non-reusable plate that has the phrase "Hope you're smiling too" embroidered on it with a very little amount of ketchup shaped like a smiley face inside. This definitely made me smile and wonder whose incredible idea it was to do that.

One of the things that really made us want to go back again was the cleanliness. The restaurant overall, including the restrooms, was extremely clean on both of my visits, which gave me the idea that if they can keep the place clean from the outside as well, they are also clean while cooking.

Also, it is very important to know how restaurants cook what we, as guests, will consume, and Johnny Rockets perhaps thought about that when they designed the restaurant with the kitchen and cooks in view of customers, which make the visit better and more interesting just by looking at the way they work with the alimentary products we consume.

It was also nice to find out that the oil they use is 100 percent fat-free fryer oil, as shown in their menu, because such oil is considered a little healthier to consume.

Johnny Rockets is open every day of the week with a variation of business hours. From Sunday to Thursday, it is open from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and on Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to midnight.

Overall, our Johnny Rockets experience was incredible because of the great service Brandi Jo, our server, gave us, the decoration and the restaurant's overall cleanliness.

'Mr. Magorium's Wonder Emporium' is not that wonderful

By ANNA ROBLEDO
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Editor-in-chief

"Mr. Magorium's Wonder Emporium" had a whole lot of nothing going on, mixed with chaos. Yes, this movie made that possible.

Mr. Magorium's is a magical toy store where toys come alive, paper airplanes fly forever, a magical door opens up to trains, hoops, and bouncing balls, and a magic inventory book that toys pop out of. The store is always packed with kids laughing and playing.

Mr. Magorium turns to his delightful store manager, former piano prodigy Molly Mahoney, played by Natalie Portman, to be his predecessor, if she will accept it. Her performance was pretty heartfelt and cute, no big surprise there. She was fun to watch until the end, when I just wanted to reach out and punch her in the face so that she would stop her ridiculously long "let's bring the store back to life" dance.

Mahoney feels that she is stuck in a rut and missing that certain sparkle that makes a person special. She is reluctant to accept Mr. Magorium's departure and the store. She attempts to give Mr. Magorium the best day of his life to remind him of everything he will miss if he dies.

However, even her best attempts cannot convince Mr. Magorium to stay, which forces her to make the decision to keep the store or to grow up.

Fortunately, she is not alone in making her decision. Eric, played by Zach Mills, the lonely nine-year-old store clerk with a flare for hats, tries to convince her to keep the store open and to believe in it.

Before Mr. Magorium's departure, he hires an "accounting mutant" (an accountant) to figure out the store's worth. Henry, played by Jason Bateman, is sent over to try to make sense of 113 years worth of paper work.

Henry, or Mutant as they call him, is a lonely grown-up who never has time to play; he doesn't have time because he never stops working.

Bateman and Mills stole the movie. I cared more about them than Mr. Magorium. Eric tries to heed his mother's advice to make a friend, and chooses Henry to be that friend.

One of the only great scenes in the movie is when Eric tries to befriend the hard-working Henry by sending him notes through a window between the play area and the office. Eric says "hi" and asks Henry if he would like to play checkers, then Henry responds that he can't because he's working, and Eric asks if he would like to play after he is done working, to which Henry responds, "I never stop working."

Overall, the colors were beautiful, Portman and Mills were cute, you don't have to see Hoffman throughout the entire movie, and Bateman had some good scenes, even though he seems a little too clever to be in this over-the-top, gloomy, yet forcibly cutesy movie.

I don't see whom this movie would appeal to. Perhaps 60+, I don't know. I went with my five-year-old niece, and she took a nap during the film.

BC BRAINS

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



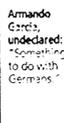
Anthony Tran, chemistry. "Something to do with the body."



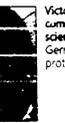
Victor Romero, undeclared. "Something productive."



Armando Gomez, undeclared. "Something to do with Germans."



Victor Medrano, science. "A German prototype."



Darren Jones, drafting. "First version of the German language."



Courtney Aycox, anthropology. "Anything that came before the German language."

What is proto-Germanic?

Compiled by Kelly Ardis / The Rip

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Bakersfield College Student Government Association

Projects Completed | Current and Future Projects

- Homecoming 2007
7,300 in Attendance
- King & Queen Elections
554 Votes
- Opening Week Fall Semester
6,167 Water Bottles Handed Out
- Big Red Week
2000+ Students Nourished
510 Shirts Handed Out
- Thousands of Students enjoying their time at BC
- Subscription to NY Times & Financial Times
- Over \$40,000 spent on Students
- Spring Fling
- Wireless Internet
- Toy Drive
- Modernization of Campus Center
- Food Court
- Signs and Lighting
- Redesign Website for SGA
- Opening Week Spring Semester
- Hot Cocoa and Cider/5% off textbooks



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Interested in joining one of the most productive SGA's in years? Senator and Commissioner position applications are available in the SGA office (CC-4).

FEATURES

Ex-hostage Waite speaks at CSUB

Former hostage negotiator Terry Waite speaks at CSUB about his experiences of being held hostage.

By GABINO VEGA ROSARIO gvega@bakersfieldcollege.edu
Rip staff writer

Peace activist Terry Waite spoke in front of more than 100 people on Nov. 13 in Cal State Bakersfield's Dome Theatre.

"Water boarding is torture," said Waite. "We should not take the terrorist route when it comes to gathering information."

The Kegley Institute of Ethics presented their third annual fall lecture, called "Resolving Conflict: The Test of Humanity." The lecture explained Waite's experience while being in solitary confinement. "I never lost faith," said Waite, "I had to keep my mind sane. So that's where I wrote my first book, in my mind."

"You could beat me and take my freedom, but my soul is something you can never take," said Waite.

Waite was a hostage negotiator in the '80s and had successfully compromised releases of hostages in Iran and Libya. In 1987, Waite was in a negotiation case in Beirut, Lebanon.

"A key thing you have to remember is to have respect for other cultures, anything they tell you to do, you have to do," said Waite.

Waite's tips on negotiating included trying to talk with the head leader, building a sense of trust, examining



ALLY ARMSTRONG / THE RIP

Terry Waite tells of his own capture during a presentation of the Kegley Institute of Ethics at CSUB.

the root issue and finding a safe solution.

"These techniques worked," explained Waite, "but it did not work for this situation."

Because of the Iran-Contra Affair, the captors and the media believed Waite was involved in these secret deals and led to Waite being taken hostage.

During these hostage-negotiation meetings, Waite was blindfolded and not allowed to see the American hostages. After getting the release of two out of four American hostages, Waite was asked not to put on a blindfold and if he wanted to see the hostages. "Give me 24 hours," said Waite very seriously. "Give me your word that you will take me to see the hostages."

The next day the captives showed up, put a blindfold on and put him in a car. He was blindfolded for five days and showed in and out of different vehicles. They finally reached their destination and asked him to get out of the car. "I was so angry," said Waite, "I was in a cell, my skin turned pale, my hair grew white, I didn't eat and couldn't get much exercise."

Terry Waite was in captivity for 1,763 days and does not regret that time being stuck in a cell.

"I see life much clearer," said Waite. "Please don't look for suffering because it could find you ... this is a very extreme situation, but it may happen in this so-called normal life."

Waite talked about the time where he almost got killed. He said, "They asked me if I wished for anything."



ERIK AGUILAR / THE RIP

Though blind, history professor Christian Robert Parker teaches in the classroom at BC.

Blind teacher gives insight into his life

By GABINO VEGA ROSARIO gvega@bakersfieldcollege.edu
Rip staff writer

Professor Christian Robert Parker, 35, teaches a variety of history at Bakersfield College and enjoys his career even though he's blind.

Parker lives in Tehachapi and takes the Regional Transit bus in order to get to school for class. "I don't wake up that early, just at 5 a.m. to catch the 6 a.m. bus."

Being blind does not boost up any of his other senses, according to Parker. "I heard about that, and my guess is that we depend on our other senses in class. Scanners are used to correct his texts and he also has a talking computer, which allows Parker to know what he types. "I never learned to use a Braille," says Parker.

During lectures, Parker uses only his mind and students have to independently look for examples or visuals from their textbooks.

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Though Parker has this disadvantage, he does not let this condition get the best of him. "I don't think about it because if I do, then it makes things harder for me," said Parker. "At this point, the doctors have not found a cure, but that is not going to stop me and my wife from having kids."

Parker has been married for seven years to his wife Jenny, and they have a 19-month-old baby Jillian. "I do not wish my condition upon them," said Christian, "but I'm not that concerned about it."

Christian has three bachelor degrees in English, Social Science and Biblical Studies. During his lectures, he concentrates and enjoys teaching the American Revolution, the Civil War, western expansion and California history.

Christian enjoys acoustic music, Scooby-Doo cartoons, football games and loves Christmas music. "I expand my own knowledge," said Christian. "I try to get as much reading as I can... my wife usually helps me read some books."

Ron Paul well represented at BC

By BRYAN LUNG bryan_lung252@yahoo.com
Rip staff writer

His signs can be seen throughout Bakersfield College, but few people know who he is.

He is presidential candidate Ron Paul, a Republican congressman from Lake Jackson, Texas.

Ron Paul placed third in the 1988 election, running as a Libertarian nominee while still a registered Republican. He graduated from Duke University in 1961 and has been a U.S. Air Force flight surgeon as well as a gynecologist and obstetrician.

Paul is known as conservative constitutionalist and libertarian, which is a political philosophy supporting private property and individual liberty. He supports non-interventionist foreign policy and opposed the Iraq war.

He favors withdrawal from NATO and the United Nations.

He opposes birthright citizenship

for illegal aliens and has pledged to never raise taxes.

He is a long time advocate for ending federal income tax and wishes to end government spending by removing most federal agencies.

Paul opposes the Patriot Act, the federal war on drugs and gun control.

He is strongly pro-life and believes in the states' rights to determine the legality of abortion.

Ron Paul places in the top tier in the Republican straw polls and recently raised a record 4.2 million in an online fundraiser.

Even with his campaign, few people really know who Ron Paul is much less that he is a presidential candidate. Several Bakersfield College students who have seen the sign posted on the bulletins still don't know who he is.

Michael Koehmstedt, a CSUB student and avid supporter of Ron Paul and member of the Ron Paul meetup.com group said Paul "is one of the few people I can actually trust. When he says he is going to get us out of Iraq, I actually believe him."

Koehmstedt said that he is even going to switch from Democrat to Republican so that he may vote for Ron Paul.

According to Koehmstedt, Paul has been successful in getting through to most Republicans, and that most Republicans, as well as Ron Paul, no longer support Bush, and are looking for a change. They believe that there is no way that another republican is going to be able to win while supporting the war and Bush.

Koehmstedt said that he supports Ron Paul because of his "methods" and his ideas of peace, prosperity and freedom.

Leslie Mood, finance major at CSUB and member of the Bakersfield Ron Paul meetup.com group, said, "The reason I support him is because he has a strong record for protecting the constitution and his advocacy of freedom and liberty."

Though few people have heard of Ron Paul, he has appeared on television shows like Jay Leno and held a rally in Philadelphia that attracted over 3,000 people.

According to Mood, Paul is one of the most widely searched Google terms and has more video on YouTube than any other candidate. He has also won more straw polls than any other candidate.

The Ron Paul revolution, which is what his supporters call it, is a "huge movement," said Mood, and although Ron Paul is not mentioned in the mainstream media as much as other candidates, he has built up a large support base online among younger college students and traditional republicans as well as a few Democrats.

Lance Reed, another supporter of Paul, said, "Ron Paul understands and values freedom and demonstrates immense courage, personal integrity and deep commitments to the principles of individual responsibility, limited government and rationality that I hold dear."

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SPORTS

Ready to run

Right: Bakersfield College cross-country runner Shawna Roundtree practices Oct. 19. She finished 6th at the California Community College State Cross-Country Championships in Fresno Nov. 17.



Above: Cesar Mireles leads the pack of runners at practice Nov. 15. Mireles finished the state meet in 4th place with a time of 21 minutes, 30 seconds. The top BC men's runner at the state meet was Eyoqall Atebeha, who finished the four-mile race in 21:23 to place 38th.

Photos by Erik Aguilar/The Rip

Playing away from home

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

For point guard Reggie Lassiter, something is different about playing men's basketball at Bakersfield College.

Lassiter, 21, a sophomore who attended Eastern Senior High School in Washington, D.C., played last season without having his family in attendance at his games. "The main thing is not having my family in the stands watching me."

"They (his family) gave me support back home, [but] they can't be here every game," Lassiter said.

Lassiter feels that the biggest difference from playing in Washington, D.C. as opposed to playing in California is the difference in support and crowd size.



Sophomore point guard Reggie Lassiter practices in the gym Nov. 14.

Lassiter mentioned two of his main strengths.

"My strengths are I have been practicing on my jump shot a lot and attacking the hole," he said.

Lassiter mentioned the main thing involved in improving his jump shot is just to work on it.

"Coming in at seven o'clock in the morning just to get some extra shots in before practice whenever I can, staying after practice to get a couple of shots in."

Lassiter says that he is more of a passer on the court, which gets him lots of assists.

At a tournament over the weekend Lassiter had 21 assists in 3 games.

"Drive, if the lay-up is there then I take it, if not then I kick it out and open up a shot for someone else," he said.

Head coach Rich Hughes feels that Lassiter as a point guard is like a secondary coach on the floor.

"He brings a lot of leadership. One thing about Reggie is that he is a true competitor, he is going to compete every play and play hard and that rubs off on the other guys."

"If other guys aren't playing hard, Reggie's one of the first guys to tell them they are not doing what they are supposed to do," Hughes said.

Hughes mentioned that Lassiter has to work on his free throws and cutting down on turning the ball over.

Lassiter said he plans to transfer and play basketball at a four-year university, but he hasn't talked to any universities yet.

"I am just keeping my options open right now. I haven't talked to nobody yet but sooner or later I will," said Lassiter.

Lassiter, whose major is criminal justice, plans to be either a social worker or a parole officer.

Off the court, Lassiter just likes to lay back and play video games. His favorite video game is NBA 2k; he likes to be the Washington Wizards.

"You have to go with the home team," he said.

Lassiter mentioned that before any game, he likes to listen to music but added that he also makes sure to talk to his dad and his cousins.

Lassiter said that the person who inspired him to play basketball since the beginning was his dad.

"He played basketball and it was his love, so it turned into my love," he said.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Fisher scores in Fresno

The Bakersfield College men's basketball team was involved in a tournament this past weekend in Fresno.

The Renegades went 1-2 in the tournament. The Renegades started off the tournament with a 99-93 victory over West Hills.

In the other two games the Renegades lost to Oshone 74-70, and San Francisco 111-91. The Renegades were led by freshman Bobby Fisher who averaged 16.6 points per game. Fisher had tournament high 21 points in a game against Oshone.

The Renegades are now 2-4 on the season. The Renegades will host a tournament starting Nov 23 at 1 p.m.

Women's basketball

BC's women's team got off to a slow start in the Nov. 13 game with Porterville, but it eventually warmed up to beat Porterville 66-59.

Assistant coach Susan Pinza believes the win was due to good defensive play, which "caused the other team to turnover."

Furthermore, according to Pinza, the team "saw openings that made it convenient to get the ball to the person who was in the best position to get the ball in."

On Nov. 16, BC beat Allan Hancock 70-53 but lost Nov. 17 to Cuesta 49-70. The team's WSC record stands at 2-4.

Soccer

Bakersfield College women's soccer season is over. BC lost its first round playoff game to Mt. San Antonio College 0-1.

BC's overall record was 15-5-3 (W-L-T). BC's women's soccer team scored 59 goals this season and allowed 15.

Arneson places eighth despite OB on the last hole

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

Bakersfield College women's golfer Dana Arneson shot a 9-over par 82 to place eighth in the State Community College of Championships held at Sunnyside Country Club Nov. 12-13 in Fresno.

Arneson would have finished fourth place finish when she hit the ball out of bounds to earn a 2-stroke penalty.

Arneson was headed for a possible fourth place finish when she hit the ball out of bounds to earn a 2-stroke penalty.

Arneson feels that her eighth place finish is good, but she wanted to finish better.

"I guess eighth in the state isn't too bad. It was kind of disappointing at the same time because I know I could have played better than I did. It's golf, I guess eighth isn't too bad I can't complain," she said.

Arneson said that the 2-stroke penalty was disappointing.

"When I found out that at the end (that) I could have been in a playoff for sixth place if I wouldn't have had the 2-stroke penalty I was bummed," she said.

"If I didn't pull it (the ball) over the green and out of bounds I would have been a medalist. It kind of sucks but I'll get over it."

Arneson mentioned many memories from this season. "Road tripping with (women's golf coach) Cook is an experience that I don't think anyone could forget," said Arneson.

"Just playing golf everyday and improving everyday, I think was a memory for me that I won't forget."

"We missed by one swing (this year), which costs us two shots on the very last hole. It was a heck of a year it's just we didn't get us a trophy," Cook said.

Cook said that he and Arneson were shocked after they found out that she had received a 2-stroke penalty. "Golf is a game of inches, one swing can move you from fourth to eighth (place)," he said.

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SPORTS

From Canyons to the Desert and back

BC's football team advances to the second round of the playoffs.

By LEANNE CAVE
Special to the Rip

After a 45-35 victory over College of the Desert in the Golden Empire Bowl on Nov. 17, the Bakersfield College Renegades, 11-0 and No. 1 in the state, will host College of the Canyons in the semifinals of the Southern California playoffs on Saturday.

"We've advanced to the semifinals three years in a row," said Jeff Chudy, BC head coach. "It's awesome what we've been able to do and that we are undefeated."

The fact that the Renegades are unbeaten may be one of the reasons that attendance has improved this season. The BC attendance average in 2007 is 5,851.

"We've had about the best attendance since the mid '80s," said Jan Stuebbe, BC athletic director. "We have an exciting team that is undefeated and fun to watch. We also have tailgate themes that have become a Saturday happening."

The contest between BC and Canyons (9-2) will be a rematch of the Western State Conference Mountain Division Championship in which the Renegades eventually prevailed, 45-41.

Over the years, the two state powers have fought in some heated battles and have gained ultimate respect for one another.

"I think it's awesome, incredible actually, that we get to play BC in the semifinals," said Garrett Tujague, Canyons head coach. "I've known Jeff (Chudy) for 10 years, and we've always loved to play BC. It is a class-act program with great players, coaches and fans. We've put ourselves in the position to get another chance at them."

In the Nov. 10 meeting, the Cougars forced BC to come from behind to win its 10th game of the season.

The first quarter was action packed for the 8,931 fans in attendance as 27 points were notched on the scoreboard. The Renegades scored first as Jacob Bower capped off an impressive drive with a 1-yard run and Arturo Villa kicked the extra point to make the score 7-0. Canyons tied the score 7-7 on a nice 33-yard run by Raphael Reynolds and extra point by kicker Paul Weinstein.

The next score was vintage BC offense as Bower completed a 43-yard bomb to wide receiver Attrail Snipes. Snipes made a spectacular catch extending up over the defender to pull it down. Villa, the No. 1 kicker in California, added his second point of the contest making the score, 14-7. The Cougars once again didn't waste any time as they added six more points on a 7-yard touchdown run by Brad McClellan, bringing Canyons to within 14-13.

The BC offense dominated the second quarter with an aerial assault on the Cougars. Bower connected on touchdown strikes to Snipes (15 yards), Brandon Banks (32 yards) and Greg Williams (15 yards). Villa added all three extra point attempts.

Bower completed 22 of 36 for 236 yards, five touchdowns and no picks.

McClellan scored on a 1-yard run early in the second quarter for Canyons; the 2-point conversion was no good.

At the half, the score read 35-19 BC.

The third quarter was all Canyons. The Cougars showed determination and tenacity as they crept back into the contest on a beautiful 75-yard touchdown run by Winborn. Winborn also scored from two yards out. Both extra points were good by Weinstein and the visitors were within two points of BC, 35-33.

The fourth quarter ended up being closer than the home team would have liked.

Villa added three more points to his total as he nailed a 43-yard field goal putting the Renegades up 38-33.

McClellan was not finished. The backup quarterback, who came in due to injury to starting QB Joey Frias, led his team down the field and scored on a 9-yard run. Weinstein added the point after and the Cougars led for the first time, 41-38.

But the BC offense was not shaken.

Bower brought the Renegades back in one of the most important drives of the season and tossed an 11-yard touchdown pass to Banks in the corner of the end zone.

Villa added his ninth point on the PAT and BC recaptured the lead, 45-41.

Banks, who has had stellar performances for the Renegades this season, became BC's single-season record holder for pass receptions.

Canyons had one last opportunity to score, but BC cornerback Keith Thompson intercepted the last minute pass in the end zone sealing the WSC championship for the 'Gades.

"The defense had to step up and make the plays," Chudy said. "That's the reason why we have to play for 60 minutes."

The Golden Empire Bowl on Nov. 17 was definitely a 60 minute event for the Renegades and the College of the Desert Roadrunners.

BC put four touchdowns on the board in the first half, while Desert managed two. All PAT's by Villa and Deserts' Tejada were good.

BC led at the half, 28-14.

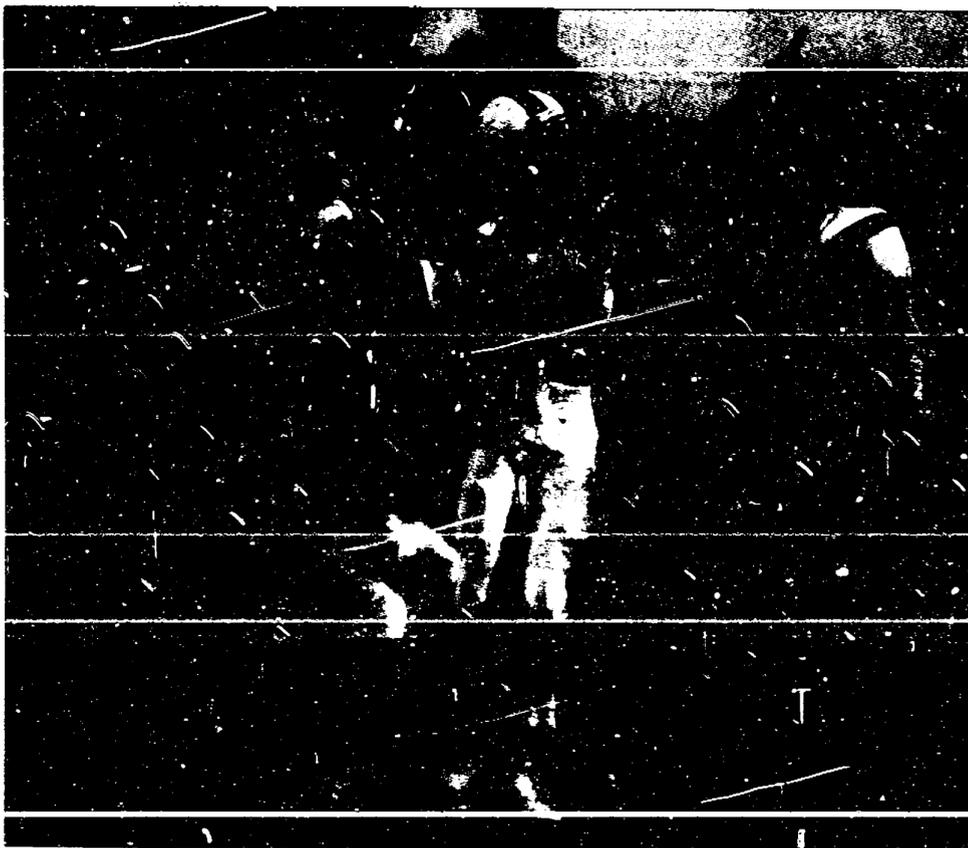
The passing game for BC was intact as usual as Jacob Bower connected on a 28-yard touchdown strike to Brandon Banks to put the 'Gades up 14-7 early in the second quarter. The talented wide receiver also made key blocks that enabled running back Bruce Frieson to sprint 70-yards into the end zone to put the 'Gades back in the lead, 21-14. Frieson also scored on a 3-yard run and amassed 194 yards rushing in the contest.

"Frieson has great balance and is a super kid," Chudy said.

The third quarter was BC's Bower to Snipes show as the duo connected on touchdown passes of 26 and 69 yards to put the 'Gades up 42-14.

For the second straight week, BC watched a big lead slip away in the second half.

"It's natural that once you get a big lead, you have a letdown," said BC offensive coach Carl Dean. "We just have to do a better job adding points and not take for granted that we've got a big lead."



Photos by Lisa Vargas / The Rip

Above: Bakersfield College's wide receiver Attrail Snipes (5) catches a touchdown pass while College of the Canyons' defensive back Chris Black (14) tries to defend in a Nov. 10 regular-season game.

Left: Snipes celebrates with another teammate after catching the touchdown pass that helped BC beat Canyons 45-41.

Below: BC linebacker Quinton Woods tackles College of the Desert's Keiton Mayes in a 45-35 playoff win Nov. 17.

"We've advanced to the semifinals three years in a row. It's awesome what we've been able to do and that we are undefeated."

— Jeff Chudy,
BC head coach

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Desert proved they deserved to be in the quarterfinals as they racked up 21 points and edged within seven of the highly favored home team, 42-35.

But BC's Villa nailed a 32-yard FG with 1:46 left on the clock to put the Renegades in front 45-35 and linebacker Daron Mackey picked off a Roadrunner pass to seal the Golden Empire Bowl victory.

Banks was chosen as the game's Most Valuable Player. Saturday's game against College of the Canyons has a big difference than the first meeting this season — this time the loser's season is over. Ticket prices are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children and students. Gates are scheduled to open at 2:30 p.m. with a kickoff at 4 p.m.

