

# SPORTS

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

### Men fall short vs. Citrus in OT

After blowing a 17 point halftime lead the Renegades lose to the Citrus Owls 115-100 in overtime.

By LAUREN KIZZIAR  
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Rip staff writer

The Bakersfield College men's basketball team looked for a huge upset when it played the undefeated Citrus College Owls, but in overtime the Owls fought back for a 115-100 victory to remain undefeated.

The 'Gades were looking to play hard and compete against Citrus. "To win, that's all I could think about. To win," said freshman Jamar Harrison, who scored 14 points. According to Citrus College coach Rick Croy, they did just that. "I think we got outplayed for 40 minutes. They outplayed us and they were ready for us." The score at halftime had BC up by 17 points. Croy said Citrus was frustrated and knew they needed to get back in the game.

The BC team said they were expecting a comeback fight from Citrus. With a 3-pointer taken by Buchi Awaji of Citrus in the last two seconds of the second half, the game was tied 95-95 and went into a five-minute overtime.

"It wasn't an ideal shot. They played great defense and we are just fortunate that the ball went in," said Croy. BC ran into a few problems in overtime. "On defense we gave up too many easy shots and on offense it just became a fouling match," said BC coach Richard Hughes.

With 32 fouls against BC and three

"We are going to take our frustrations out on the next teams."

—Gary Felices,  
Sophomore point guard

of their players fouling out, the men struggled with maintaining their lead in the second half.

"We were just on the wrong end of [fouls] and it hurt us," said Hughes.

Some think the game would have turned out differently had the referees let the men play basketball without so many fouls.

Gary Felices, a sophomore who scored 17 points, said, "They lost the game for us." The fouls had an impact on the score for both Citrus and BC. "We would have beaten them by 20," said Harrison.

The next game against Citrus on Feb. 23 will be just like their last meeting: fast paced, high scoring and high energy.

Hughes said it will definitely be an action packed game. "These guys are marking that day on their calendars. They want a rematch. They want to win." Citrus knows there will be a fight from BC the next time they play.

"They are going to come after us," said Croy. "We were very lucky, very, very lucky."

Until then the 'Gades say they need to get the loss out of their heads and win.

Felices said, "We are going to take our frustrations out on the next teams."



Point guard Gary Felices lays the ball up in a game against Citrus on Jan. 30.

### You win some, you lose some

By LAUREN KIZZIAR  
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Rip staff writer

Through drills, family bonds, fun and a little bit of prayer, the Bakersfield College men's basketball team has won some and lost some, but they know they still need to work hard for that conference title.

The team started out their season rocky only winning six of their first 14 games, but as it got closer to conference games, they realized something needed to be done differently. They needed to work together as a team to pull out a win. They played in the COS Tournament against Porterville, Oxnard and Sequoias, and it was the first tournament they won this season.

"Everyone started to step up and play as a team and not go for individual stats. We ended up winning the COS tournament because everyone contributed to each win," said Jeff Grace, a sophomore.

Being on this team is like having another family. Some of the players are far from home and they find family support in their teammates.

"At the end of the day, we all have each other's backs, we are like brothers," said Jimmy Scroggins, also a sophomore.

Alex Olcott, a freshman, said, "When we are in a tight game, it's like we are fighting for our brothers out there."

This team isn't all about drills and strict business, however. They know how to have fun on the court too.

When asked about some of the fun things they do at practice, some

"When we are in a tight game, it's like we are fighting for our brothers out there."

—Alex Olcott,  
Freshman center

of them said "dollar shots" were a good way to get the morale up and to just have fun on the court with the coach. "Coach [Hughes] said whoever could make it from the half-court line first would win the \$20 in his pocket," said Olcott. The men enjoy the fun in competition drills, but they say they know when to joke and when to work hard.

"Practice and basketball should be fun, and I think Coach [Hughes] understands that it shouldn't always be drill, drill, drill," said Scroggins.

Bobby Fisher, a freshman, has worked hard and has become sixth in the conference for individual scoring by average points.

At 14.7 points per game he is one of only four freshmen that made it into the leader's bracket.

For this team, prayer has had an impact on them both in practice and in games.

"We pray before and after games and practices," said Olcott. Whether it is Coach Hughes, an assistant coach, or a player, the team prays for safety on the court and off.

"We never pray for wins or about losses... coach asks if there are any requests and we also pray for the safety of our players and our friends and families," said Scroggins.



**BC citrus for sale**  
The Agriculture Department holds its annual fruit sale on campus.

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**Spaghetti and dancing**  
Quota International of Bakersfield raises money for the deaf community.

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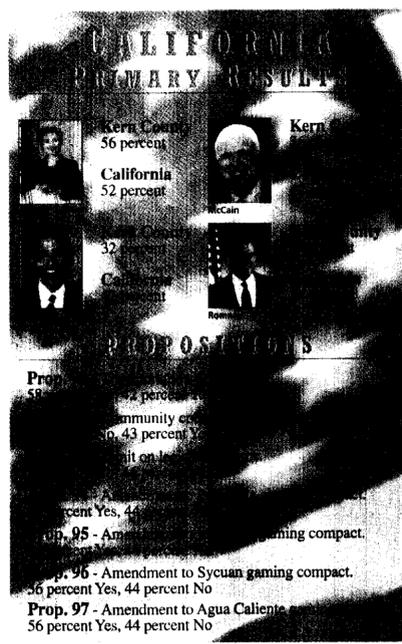
# THE RENEGADE RIP

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### BC's primary reactions

By MARCINDA COIL  
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News editor

Bakersfield College students have mixed reactions to the California primary results Feb. 5.

According to political science major Lonnie Lehr, 22, a democrat, New York Sen. Hillary Clinton would make the best president. "She has experience to make the drastic changes this country needs," said Lehr. "She will restructure the economy and

make daycare more affordable to parents and she will help get most troops out of Iraq." However, democrat Kim Escalera, 19, supports Illinois Sen. Barack Obama. "I like him a lot. He seems like he would bring about a great positive change in the White House."

Though Obama has won the democratic vote in more states, Hillary Clinton has won more of the larger states, including California with 52 percent (90 percent of precincts reporting). Obama received 42 percent of the votes.

As for the republican vote, Arizona Sen. John McCain won California with 42 percent (95.9 percent precincts reporting). Former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney received 31 percent of the votes.

"He [Romney] was a business tycoon, hence he is the devil," said Lehr. "I smell wicked special interest groups."

According to English major Rebecca Landucci, 20, an independent, she has not yet researched the presidential candidates to make an informed decision; however, she has received first impressions. "Hillary gives me the willies, and I do not think Barack Obama should win based on his association with Muslims, a group of people we're at war with."

According to 19-year-old biology major, who wished to remain anonymous, Obama is the worst candidate. "I heard he was raised as a Muslim."

However, according to the Jan. 31 edition of The Bakersfield Independent, Obama and Hillary agree on main issues. They support the immigration reform legislation, opposed George Bush Jr.'s "tax cuts for top earners," troop withdrawal from Iraq and national health care, though they disagree on how to provide national health care.

According to Student Government Association's Sen. Matthew Cuellar, the results of the democratic primary



Mary Jaime checks in to vote on Feb. 5 at East Hills Mall.

ies are close. "It's going to be really interesting to see who comes out on top of both parties."

Besides, presidential candidates, people also voted on propositions such as Indian gaming, transportation and community college funds.

Escalera said she did not support the Indian gaming agreements, whereas Lehr supported all propositions except proposition 93, which decided legislative terms.

"Basically, the commercials say it's bad, and it does sound like a negative thing," said Lehr. "If we need social change, it won't happen like this."

Though it was close, proposition 93 did not pass. No proposition passed except for the Indian gaming agreements.

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

### Women struggle with growing pains and injuries

After enduring hardships all season, the women's basketball team's goals remain the same.

By TAYLOR M. GOMBOS  
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Sports editor

The Bakersfield College women's basketball team has had a rough season, but they will continue to fight through having a young team and injuries.

"We are a young ball club, we have had a lot of growing pains. The second week of the season we had (forward) Kapresha Davis tear her ACL," said head coach Paula Dahl.

Adding to the injuries are sophomore Katie Mueller and freshman Kristen Perry who had "really bad ankle sprains that lingered on through the end of Christmas," according to Dahl.

Sophomore Tiffany Jones had to leave the team due to illness, and Perry quit the team for an unknown reason.

Dahl mentioned that this season will be a good learning experience for her team. "I believe that this year will be a year that they (the players) will have learned so much from. Right now, it's just trying to help them recognize that we still have opportunities, and that they need to fight and be strong."

Dahl said that her team's goals

for the rest of the season haven't changed since the beginning of the season. "We want them (the players) to play hard defense, we want them to talk for 40 minutes, and we want them to box out and rebound," Dahl mentioned that the most important thing is that her team continues to battle.

"No matter what's happening, you still battle and are still diving for loose balls," she said.

On Jan. 30, the women's basketball team faced off against the Citrus Owls.

After being tied with the Owls 6-6 for several minutes, the Renegades started to make poor passes and committed a lot of turnovers, which led to a 78-46 loss.

"That's been the theme of our season. We started out pretty strong. Our first play of the game, we ran our offense and got an easy lay-up. Citrus came at us pretty hard; I think they got away with a little bit, and we didn't know how to respond to that," Dahl said.

Citrus was led by Terri Washington, who scored 35 points.

With the loss to Citrus, the Renegades fell to 3-19 overall and 1-5 in the Western State Conference.

On Feb. 16, the women's basketball team will advocate for the Women's Basketball Coaches Association to promote breast cancer awareness. Anyone wearing pink to the game, which starts at 5:30 p.m., will get into the game free.



Bakersfield College's guard Kristen Alvirez makes her way down the court on Jan. 30. The Renegades lost to Citrus 78-46. BC will play Santa Monica on Feb. 16 at BC. Anyone wearing pink will get into the game free.

## BASEBALL

### Baseball team starts off season with experience

By ELIZABETH MEEKS  
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Rip staff writer

Bakersfield College's baseball team began its season with returning experience leading the way.

BC opened the season by hosting a tournament Jan. 25-26 defeating Irvine Valley 3-2 in the first game, and 9-0 in the second, while suffering a loss to Long Beach City 8-4.

Head coach Tim Panton said, "The tournament was about getting on the field and getting three games under our belt."

Outfielder Tyler Garewal, 19, had three RBIs against Irvine Valley, while catcher AJ Day, 18, had one RBI to clinch the win.

"We have the team to get it done. I have high expectations," Burleson said.

Dedication to the game is mandatory for the entire Renegade team.

basepitcher Jeff Burleson, 20, were selected to last year's All-Western state conference team and pitcher Kyle Witten, 19, made second team All-Western state conference.

All three have signed letters of intent to Division I schools in 2007.

"We have the team to get it done. I have high expectations," Burleson said.

Dedication to the game is mandatory for the entire Renegade team.

Panton said, "We go year round. We spend more time with each other than we do with our own families. We are a family." If the Renegades are not scheduled to play, they are practicing.

Panton adds strength and stability by returning for his 19th year. Outfield coach Ronnie Machado Jr. said, "Panton has great knowledge of the game. The way he teaches and breaks it down is excellent."

Panton does not feel a need for team captains. "The team holds each other accountable," Panton said.

Panton does not feel a need for team captains. "The team holds each other accountable," Panton said.

"The returning players also lend support to their freshman teammates."

"As Day learned, collegiate baseball is much different than high school. "The players are much bigger and faster, there is more responsibility. It's a big step up," said Day.

BC (3-1) faces Oxnard Feb. 7 at 7 p.m. and Modesto Feb. 8 at 7 p.m. at Gerry Collis field.



English Professor Scott Wayland stands in the water at Bar Harbor, Maine on his cross country cycling trip that he completed in 99 days.

### The ride of a lifetime

BC professor takes on challenge of a lifetime and cycles across 15 states.

By ELIZABETH MEEKS  
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Rip staff writer

Wide-open country, interesting people, and self exploration crossed the path of Bakersfield College professor Scott Wayland.

An English professor at BC since 1996, Scott Wayland rose to the challenge of a lifetime by cycling 4,661 miles across 15 states and four time zones in 99 days.

"It was about testing myself. With a trip like this, you figure out what you are made of," said Wayland.

Wayland began his journey Aug. 10, 2007 in Bar Harbor, Maine, where he picked up his recumbent bike (a German design) at a local bike shop that he shipped from California.

"The idea was to maïson myself on the East Coast and fight my way back," explained Wayland.

Wayland originally planned to experience the trip with his wife, Jodi. However, due to her conflicting work schedule, Wayland had to tackle the ride on his own.

The Waylands have taken trips in the past such as their 800-mile tandem ride with their dog, Django.

On average, he clocked about 60 miles a day, cycling a maximum of 85 miles in one day.

"There were so many awesome days," said Wayland.

Wayland described the north-eastern section of the country, such as Maine and Vermont, as some of the more enjoyable moments of the trip. However, not all of his experiences were happy.

"Crossing the Midwest was a special kind of misery," said Wayland. Massive winds, rain, and dramatic mountain climbs challenged Wayland's determination to complete the "holy grail" of long distance cycling.

"Western Kansas was the hardest," said Wayland. "I never wanted



Sitting at his desk, English professor Scott Wayland recalls his memorable cycling trip.

to quit, but I definitely wanted days to end. It's like life; you just have to put your head down and push through."

With the aid of a series of maps, as well as the help of www.adventurecycling.org and www.horntec.com, See WAYLAND, Page 4

### Lack of funds ends a lawsuit that never began

By KATHERINE J. WHITE  
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Copy editor

The lawsuit against the Kern High School District is off.

Bakersfield College communication professor Michael Korcock and his wife, Jessica, have chosen not to go forward with their suit against KHSD, which was based on the district's possible violation of the Brown Act.

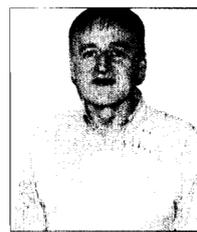
According to Jerry Francke, general counsel for the organization Californians Against, and one of the legal experts specializing in Brown Act violations, the Ralph M. Brown Act, passed by the California State Assembly in 1953, ensures the public's right to engage in the governmental process.

The Brown Act was written with regard to meetings held by representatives of cities, counties, councils and boards, including school boards. The Act ensures the public's right to voice concerns before boards and councils. The act also stipulates that official boards must post notices and agendas of meetings. The Act

also states that the media must be informed of special meetings, and it also states that the meetings must have only public votes.

Brown's Act was a response to a public, who vocalized anxiety concerning meetings by officials, which were conducted without public knowledge. The similar Bagley-Keane Act concerns accessibility by the public for state government meetings.

"The Brown Act is a California law," See KORCOK, Page 4



Michael Korcock

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"The Brown Act is a California law," See KORCOK, Page 4

### Search for new BC president on rise

By JOEL R. PARAMO  
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Editor in chief

The search for Bakersfield College's new president has finally begun.

The chair of the screening committee, Dean of Instruction Nan Gomez-Heitzberg, will be working with the group to develop questions tied to the job description to learn as much as possible about the potential candidates.

The selection committee is made up of 11 people that include administrators, faculty, classified employees, a member from the

BC foundation and a student representative.

Though, according to an article in the Community College Times, BC isn't the only school that is going to be receiving a new president. There is a wave of new and young presidents quickly taking the positions of the generation of presidents now nearing the age of 60.

"What we're seeing is that people hired in the '70s are these people who have retired or will be retiring," said Gomez-Heitzberg. "We just have to ask ourselves what kind of succession planning we need to do."

See PRESIDENT, Page 4

# FEATURES

## Dinosaur extinction theories discussed at CSUB

By GABINO VEGA ROSARIO  
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Rip staff writer

Dinosaur sex, poisoned plants and volcanic eruptions were a few of many theories discussed by professor Natalie Burszyn during the National Weather Association's Kern County Chapter meeting at Cal State Bakersfield on Jan. 24.

A brief history of the dinosaurs was given in order to get to the final conclusion. "The Cretaceous Period (the final era that dinosaurs existed) was the strangest period that had the weirdest dinosaurs," said Burszyn.

"Some Japanese scientist believed that dinosaurs were having loud sex and the sonic booms were too loud."

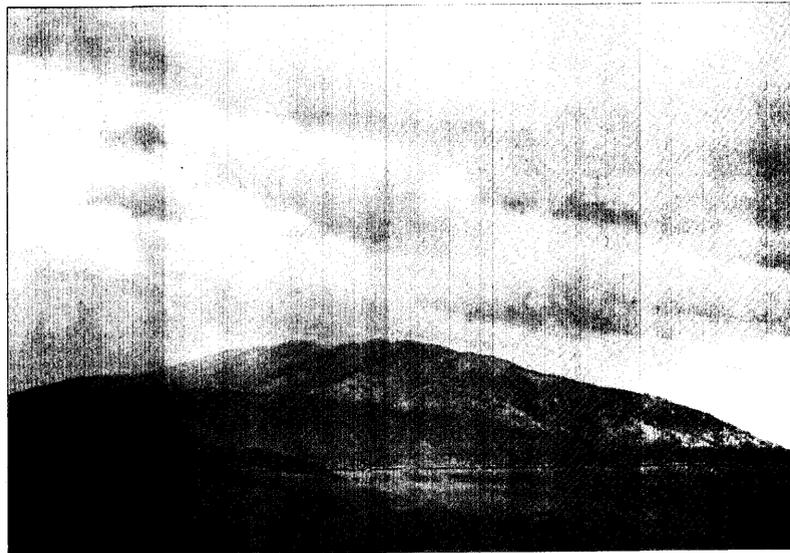
— Natalie Burszyn, BC professor

According to Burszyn, there was evidence that the sea level dropped dramatically during the Cretaceous Period.

of vegetation. "Dinosaurs were not used to the cold environment. So, if there was little food, little water, what is left?" asked Burszyn.

around the world caused dinosaurs to die off due to large amounts of carbon dioxide. Yet another theory is that the increased number of mammals ate the majority of the dinosaur eggs, resulting in a decrease of dinosaur life.

## When it rains, it pours



Above: Rain clouds hit Bakersfield, near the mouth of the Kern Canyon on Monday, Jan. 28.

Right: Many seagulls occupy a flooded baseball field at Olive Drive Church on Super Bowl Sunday, Feb. 3.

Photos by Cara Jackson and Marcinda Coil / The Rip



### VALLEY FORECAST

|                                 |                               |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Friday<br>High: 63<br>Low: 41   | Sunday<br>High: 63<br>Low: 41 |
| Saturday<br>High: 64<br>Low: 41 | Monday<br>High: 65<br>Low: 43 |

### MOUNTAIN FORECAST

|                                 |                               |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Friday<br>High: 54<br>Low: 32   | Sunday<br>High: 54<br>Low: 32 |
| Saturday<br>High: 55<br>Low: 32 | Monday<br>High: 53<br>Low: 33 |

## Hate crimes not a problem at BC

■ A recent incident at West High School created questions about hate crime policies at BC.

By NICHOLAS SPARLING  
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Rip staff writer

The Nazi flag found flying over West High School on the early morning of Martin Luther King Jr. Day was more talked about than seen.

The flag was flown from a flag pole at the school and was reported by a resident of the area to have been seen as early as 8 p.m. Jan. 20.

For the past 10 years, as long as Director of Public Safety Mark Graf has been at BC, there has not been a bias crime incident.

After an administrative inquiry, the situation would be looked at in perspective.

## Scottish poet's life honored by society

By BIANCA HERNANDEZ  
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Rip staff writer

The song customarily sung on New Year's Eve begins with the lines, "Should auld acquaintance be forgot..."

Robert Burns, the man behind this poem, isn't forgotten by some people.

In fact, he is honored every year around his birthday by Burns Suppers held around the world.

A man known for writing poems in the Scottish dialect, Burns is seen as somewhat of a representative of the people.

the offender and how it's received by the offended," and then it would be handled, said Graf.

The motive as to why someone raised the flag can only be speculated.

It is suspected that it was flown intentionally on Dr. King's holiday, which would fall under the FBI definition of a hate crime.

The FHI currently defines a hate crime as "a criminal offense committed against a person, property, or society which is motivated, in whole or in part, by the offender's bias against a race, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or ethnicity/national origin."

The majority of hate crimes are race related. The second most common is prejudice against religion.

Hate crime laws we have today were first instituted by Congress in 1968 and allows federal prosecution for crimes that are "motivated by bias based on race, color, religion, or national origin and the assailant intended to prevent the victim from exercising a 'federally protected right' such as the right to vote or attend school," according to <http://www.civilrights.org>.

Arguments have been made against hate crime legislation, saying that it infringes upon the First Amendment and the right to free speech.

Tim Martin, a political science major, believes the argument against hate crime legislation is "true to some extent, but the line should be drawn at violence. You should be able to say what you want even if it's not popular."

"Should auld acquaintance be forgot..."

— Robert Burns, Scottish poet

seen on YouTube by searching for Kern Scot.

This occasion, the 37th of its kind held by the Kern County Scottish Society, was unique this year because of a surprise unveiling of a portrait of Burns made by a local artist.

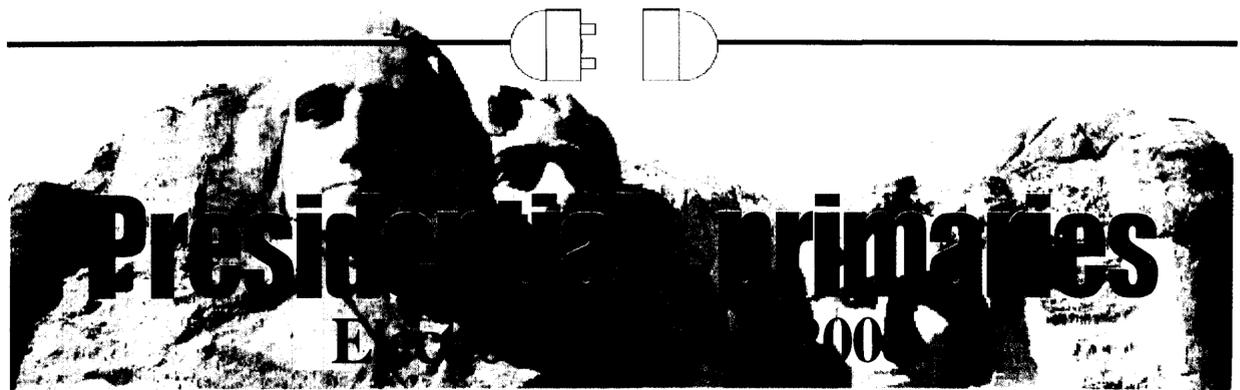
According to Jennifer Scott, a Board Member for the Kern County Scottish Society, Eleanor Clark started the building fund to get a Scottish Society hall.

Last year, she suffered a stroke and an appreciation for all the things she's done for the Society, Patti Douville was commissioned to paint her portrait.

According to Scott, Clark's portrait will be featured on the cover of the program for this year's Scottish Gathering and Games, an annual event hosted by the Kern County Scottish Society.

And how exactly would Burns feel about all of this attention?

# THE PLUG



## The Community college proposition failed big

By EARL PARSONS  
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Features editor

California Proposition 92, which would have lowered student fees to \$15 per unit and locked in state community college funding, failed in the Feb. 5 primary, splitting teachers' unions in the process.

Under the current formula, established after passage of voter-approved Proposition 98 in 1988, community colleges are funded in conjunction with elementary and high schools, referred to as K-12. The California legislature established that commu-

nity colleges would receive 10-11 percent of Proposition 98 funds.

However, Sacramento often allocates community colleges' 10-11 percent for other uses, according to Bakersfield College Academic Senate president John Gerhold and other organizations in the community college system.

Along with the aforementioned mandates, Proposition 92 sought to allocate 10.46 percent of Proposition 98 funding and not allow legislators to change funding. It would have also

established a new funding formula for community colleges based on young adult populations rather than K-12 enrollment, the current statistic used under Proposition 98, according to the California Primary Official Voter Information Guide. Gerhold felt that Proposition 92 was going to give community colleges what they were promised under Proposition 98.

"Colleges didn't get the 11 percent," he said. "The legislature did. The legislature doesn't honor that plan, but [Proposition] 92 says 'thou shalt.'"

However, Californians For Fair Education Funding, the umbrella or-

ganization of groups opposed to Proposition 92, argued that Proposition 92 did not provide any accountability to California community colleges, citing a stipulation in the bill that the minimum funding level could only be changed by a four-fifths vote from the legislature. Newspaper editorials opposed to Proposition 92 felt it was badly timed around a drastic California budget crisis.

A Jan. 4 editorial in the Bakersfield Californian called Proposition 92 "bad ballot box budgeting," saying that "the increased spending without increased revenues comes at a time when California's already predicted

to come up \$14 billion short."

According to Student Government Association Senator Matthew Caellar, Prop. 92 was shot down "by another one of my colleagues, which kind of upset me because that would really help out community college students."

Gerhold agreed that Proposition 92 suffered from poor timing but added that "it's something that needs to be done for the colleges."

While the California Federation of Teachers supported Proposition 92, the California Teachers Association was against it, claiming the proposition would "jeopardize funding for

K-12 schools."

This, according to Gerhold, who is a CTA member and a trustee professor on campus, was a tactic to protect K-12 interests. "They like that they can steal from [the community colleges] 11 percent," said Gerhold.

Had the bill failed by a narrow margin, Gerhold said, the organization supporting Proposition 92 would have attempted to present the legislature with a bill similar to Proposition 92. Since it lost by a large margin, however, Gerhold felt that California community colleges would "probably never get anything like this on the ballot again."

## Project Vote Smart bus teaches not preaches

By CRYSTAL ROBERTS  
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Rip staff writer

The Project Vote Smart Bus was on Bakersfield College's campus Feb. 4 in order to educate students about the voters self-defense system.

After getting stuck on the hill at the University Avenue entrance, the large tour bus finally made its way onto the BC campus to educate BC students of their organization.

According to the Project Vote Smart Website, the voter's self-defense system is designed so that people can look up information about political figures.

"Every candidate and elected official from president to local government can be easily and instantly accessed through the project Vote Smart Website," so that people can learn about the political person and all things they have said, their voting history, and things they have done.

According to Jeremy Clemens, a spokesperson and bus driver for the organization, "Our main goal is to educate people and get them away from the manipulative tactics."

Clemens also explained that they are not biased and only provide information about different candidates to mostly college students.

Clemens also said that college students have an open mind when seeing the bus as opposed to the general public.

"We get the best turnout at colleges and universities, there's more people around, and college kids are more willing to try something different."

Inside, the bus has a large theater system, complete with a large projection screen, surround sound and small lights that line the ceiling. The seats are individually set in two's, much like that of a small airplane.

Students are welcome to view films and documentaries that follow the history of the actual organization itself and facts about the system of government and how it works.

Students are also welcome to access data about candidates and officials. The film explained that many of the people who are involved with Project Vote Smart are volunteers or work for minimum wage.

The different members monitor what Congress is doing and put the information on their Website.

The film also explained that they work hard to make sure all information reported is accurate and correct, stating that all bits of information are checked for accuracy five times.

According to the Project Vote Smart Website, the organization is not governmentally funded nor do they accept funds from corporations or other organizations that support or oppose any political party, or special interest groups.

The funds for Project Vote Smart come from Americans who donate money.

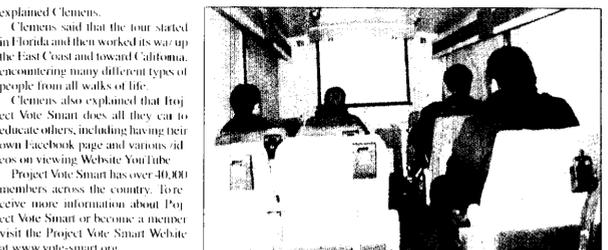
The volunteers at Project Vote Smart work to make sure people understand how politics work and that they do not get mislead by any facts that political figures may try to use, ensuring "that tolerance will no longer be the only option available to the millions of us who are tormented by the issueless rhetoric and often misleading attacks that define contemporary American politics."

Project Vote Smart has a home office that is based in Montana, and also has a second office in Arizona.



Above: Police technicians control traffic while the Project Vote Smart bus waits for a tow truck to help them out of a dip at BC on Feb. 4.

Below: BC students watch a presentation on the Project Vote Smart bus.



## Professor touts odd pair

■ BC professor Randal Beeman wishes he could see Obama and McCain pair up.

By JOEL R. PARAMO  
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Editor in chief

Although he realizes it will never happen the day after the Feb. 5 primary, Bakersfield College history professor Randal Beeman has come to the realization that the perfect pair for the 2008 ballot would be Arizona Sen. John McCain and Illinois Sen. Barack Obama.

According to Beeman, by McCain being the only GOP frontrunner that is not taking on a racist tone toward the immigration policies and that believes global warming is actually happening, he is securing votes with bigger more diverse states like California.

"Combined with Obama, they would make an amazing pair," said Beeman. "My kids stop when Obama is on TV. He's a fantastic speaker inspiring change. I'm a registered Republican but I really hope for him."

McCain triumphed over his rivals and took the lead for Republicans with 559 delegates, nearly half the amount he needs for the nomination.

"The only way he (McCain) could fall now is a health problem," said Beeman. "He is solid."

"McCain is definitely the front runner," he said. "He'd have to end up in a pretty serious scandal to knock him out of the race at this time."

In Kern County, McCain barely took the lead with a nine percent advantage over his opponent, former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney. But in California, McCain won by a significant percentage as well as getting victories in winner-take-all states New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Missouri, Delaware and his own Arizona. Romney came in second with 265 delegates, while former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee made a surprising comeback with 169 delegates that challenged Romney's position.

"If Romney would have won California, he would have sustained his spot in the race," said Beeman. "But, Romney has extreme conservative values that favor allowing teachers and students to carry guns and he's been quoted as saying there's no such thing as evolution."

Holmes believes that if both Romney and Huckabee were not religious contenders, Romney could have beat McCain.

"You have two religious candidates competing for the same vote," said Holmes. "In Kern County, both of their votes combined would have amounted to 50.8 percent. They're hurting each other. If Huckabee dropped out, a large percentage of the votes would have gone to Romney."

According to both Beeman and Holmes, the overall results for Republicans in Kern County prove that it's more conservative than the rest of the state.

## Hillary closes in on votes

■ Clinton and Obama are the front runners for the democratic vote.

By KYLE BEALL  
kbeall@bakersfieldcollege.edu  
Opinion editor

The results of California's first city primary are in, and as for the democrats, it's a close race, excluding the results of the rest of the nation. As of Wednesday morning, Sen. Hillary Clinton currently has the most delegates at 845 but is followed close behind by Sen. Barack Obama with 765. Two thousand and twenty five delegates are needed in order to be nominated.

According to Candi Easter, chairman of the Kern Democratic Party and the Region 8 Director of the California Democratic Party it's too early to tell. "Twenty percent of the delegates are uncommitted, so they can say they are for someone but they can change," said Easter. "They are never committed until the actual vote."

"I think Hillary's out in front but there's a long way to go," said Easter.

Easter believes that it's a strong possibility that the nominee will be decided at the Democratic National Convention.

Regardless of who is actually nominated, Easter will support that nominee 100 percent. She believes it's more important to get a democrat in the White House and she hopes that the entire party will pull together.

any one of them would have made a great president."

President of the Democratic Women of Kern, Imelda Ceja-Butkiewicz, is excited by Clinton's victory in California. A strong supporter of Clinton, she believes that Clinton is the prime democratic candidate for the presidency.

"In the long run, I will support either one, but to me, Hillary is the more experienced one. She has the knowledge. She's not all talk. I think she's the one that will get us back to where we should be," said Ceja-Butkiewicz.

"We need a president who can run the government and manage the economy, and Hillary is the one that can make that happen."

Both Easter and Ceja-Butkiewicz agree that the economy is a key issue right now with democrats, though Easter said that both Obama and Clinton are "really close" on the issue.

"I feel that once we have a democratic president and a democratic congress, then, I think, the economy would move forward," said Easter. "The stock market is always higher with a democratic president."

"I think the policies for the Bush administration have been an absolute failure."

# NEWS

## PRESIDENT: Important that new BC president has knowledge of California Community College system

Continued from Page 1  
are we doing? I don't think currently it's a trend, it's just where we are."

According to the presidential profile, the future president has to be a dynamic leader who will be student-centered and guided by student and community needs. One that Gomez-Heitzberg mentioned, the future president will have to demonstrate proficiency in institutional finance and fundraising among many others.

"What we really need at BC is someone who will stick around for a while," said John Gerhold, president of the Academic Senate. According to Gerhold it's been over 15 years since the school has retained a president for over a six-year period. But President William Andrews feels that it's not only the president that makes the school but the college faculty and staff that have been at BC for 40-plus years.

"These people are committed to the college," said Andrews. "College leadership will continue to change. Currently, most 10-year CEOs don't last for more than five."

"Though it's not that these leaders are retiring from the work force, but because there are open opportunities for better positions."

BC serves over 24,000 students a semester and it's continuing to grow.

something that in Gomez-Heitzberg's opinion would attract a future president.

"BC has a long history, we've been around for over 90 years. We have a tradition of being a very well rounded school, and we have dedicated employees on a growing campus," she said. "This is the kind of college someone would look to want to come to."

Gerhold feels it would be important to find someone who knows the California Community College System. According to the presidential search brochure, the president has major responsibilities that include maintaining the policies, procedures, and regulations set forth by the Chancellor, The Board of Trustees, the California Education Code, the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, and the general laws of California and of the United States.

"The laws are different here in California than they are in other states," said Gerhold. Gomez-Heitzberg agreed but said that even though California is a "prescribed system, an applicant who shows the qualities and skills we're looking for, from anywhere, would be OK, too."

According to Gerhold there are two really important components to

"A good leader, regardless of where they come from, can pick up the understanding."  
—William Andrews, BC president

look for while searching for a president. You need someone that can develop trust with faculty and staff, and continuity. Gomez-Heitzberg feels the committee can get a good idea of what an applicant is pretty much about after an interview, checking references to confirm, and allowing them to participate in public forums so the school can ask them questions to establish a "fit."

"Colleges need different things at different times," said Andrews. "According to him if someone from out of state does receive the position it shouldn't be hard to transition. "Someone will bring different skill sets, and they will develop with the help of the chancellor and the selection committee," said Andrews. "A good leader, regardless of where they come from, can pick up the understanding. No CEO knows every thing."

## WAYLAND: Would stop at libraries to update his Web site; arrived in Ventura Nov. 15

Continued from Page 1  
showers.com, a website for cyclists who are looking for places to camp, people who might take them in and scenic routes. Wayland was able to navigate his way while meeting and making connections along the way.

"As days would come to an end, Wayland would consider dinner and where he would sleep.

Peddling into small new towns, Wayland would hit the local grocery store and then in the library so he could update his Web site, www.scottfindmehome.blogspot.com.

Wayland logged his trip with pictures and commentary. While visiting towns, he met interesting people. Some would take him into their home for the night and recommend where he could camp or inspire him.

If staying at a "new friend's" home did not work out, Wayland did what he describes as "staircase camping."

He slept under trees, behind tennis courts or under a cell phone tower. "It's about human interaction," said Wayland.



BC professor Scott Wayland stops in front of a highway sign during his trip across the country on his bicycle.

"I never wanted to quit, but I definitely wanted days to end. It's like life; you just have to put your head down and push through."

—Scott Wayland, English professor

"You become way more patriotic when you finish a trip like this than when you began. It's not about politics. It's about the people and the landscape."

After 450 hours of cycling, Wayland rolled into Ventura, Calif., on Nov. 15.

Wayland experienced beauty, diverse states, beautiful weather, and although difficult, he would recommend that everyone cycle long distances.

According to Wayland, "The hard part is the spice of the journey."

## KORCOK: Felt that one meeting conducted without public presence

Continued from Page 1  
law that dictates that city, county and school boards meet openly. They can act only when the public is informed," said Francke, who says that he is an "attorney who does not litigate."

According to professor Korcok, the Nov. 5 meeting of the KJSD board members was conducted without public presence and knowledge and resulted in a vote that was reached without public approval.

The vote of this meeting concerned design of a poster that would read, "In God We Trust" and would appear in each classroom of each Kern County high school. No one from the public had gotten a chance to look at the poster, which was designed by board member Bryan Baley.

There were a total of three posters that were considered. One of the posters was to feature the American flag in the background of the words,

"In God We Trust." Korcok said he did not approve of this design because the design insinuated that to be truly patriotic, one has to be a Christian.

The latest design carried the words, "Civic Education is Fundamental." One of the posters received a vote of approval from the board and the public vote at the Nov. 5 meeting, according to Korcok. The Board collectively agreed that they had violated the Brown Act. Korcok consulted the legal experts again and found that litigation would be costly and unnecessary with the rescinding of the Nov. 5 vote.

ing the Brown Act with the help of Francke and three other legal experts. Korcok soon drafted a "revised and correct" letter after consulting with the experts.

"I was in a terrible course in the Brown Act," Korcok admitted. "The Board eventually nullified the Nov. 5 vote and further ameliorated their mistakes during their Dec. 5 meeting, according to Korcok. The Board collectively agreed that they had violated the legal experts again and found that litigation would be costly and unnecessary with the rescinding of the Nov. 5 vote.

## Phone lines down on first day of school

By GABINO VEGA ROSARIO  
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Rip staff writer

Bakersfield College phone lines were reported to be non-functioning on Jan. 22, the first day of school. At around 10:16 a.m., phone calls made to the 661-395-4011 number were having cell phone-like dropped calls.

The calls were one sided, only one person could be heard talking," said Director of Marketing and Public Relations Amber Chiang.

Normally, if a call were to be

made, the dialer would hear an options menu by the automotive system. Callers who pressed zero would automatically go to an operator to answer any questions.

Because of the problem, the line was directed to Victor Crosswhite, the receptionist. Crosswhite accepted phone calls through his personal extension.

Unknown dropped calls were reported in the short time the lines were disrupted. At about 2 p.m., lines were back on track, and receivers were able to answer callers' questions.

## Gas leak near pool originally thought to shut down campus

By KYLE BEALL  
kbeall@bakersfieldcollege.edu  
Opinion editor

A gas leak was detected by PG&E near the Bakersfield College pool Jan. 30.

Originally, it was determined that the gas to the entire campus would need to be shut off in order to assess the problem and complete the repairs.

"Once you dig up the dirt you don't know what you are going to find," said Amber Chiang, Director

of Marketing and Public Relations. It was determined that the amount of the gas leaking was insufficient to warrant closing the campus. An email was sent by Chiang to inform the faculty, staff and administration of the leak and the proposed repairs.

The repairs began Jan. 31 and were completed at 3 p.m. with no reported problems.

This most recent leak comes two months after a previous gas leak that was detected Nov. 11, 2007, which led to a two-day closure of the cafeteria.

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# FEATURES

## BC sells fruit of its labor

By TYRONE C. BARNER  
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Rip staff writer

Since 1975, Bakersfield College's Agriculture Department has conducted a fruit sale from the trees located on the agriculture laboratory near the library.

This year it took place on Jan. 30-31. The fruit sold for \$3 a bag if someone picked it themselves and \$5 a bag if it was picked for you by BC students in the Agriculture Department. Cilantro was also given out for free.

The Agriculture Department has their citrus sale every winter. This year it was supervised by Bill Kelly, BC instructor for the Agriculture Leadership Training class.

According to Kelly, the funds earned from the sale help the Agriculture Department. He also added that the fruit is probably worth \$10 a bag.

Kelly went on to say that they did not have the money to advertise, so the buyers are mostly limited to the students and staff with some participation from the community. He said that if they don't sell all of the fruit, what's left over is taken down and given to a homeless shelter.

Alma Rolanday, a laboratory tech and first-time picker, was out in the morning chill to pick cilantro and



oranges with Joe Salinas, a friend of hers and a custodian in the same building. They both agreed that cilantro was good for soup, salad, and hot sauce on meats and other foods.

A forestry and wildlife major in her second year in Kelly's class, Rolanday said she really enjoys helping pick grapefruit and oranges.

Bakersfield College student Adriana Hurtado, animal science major, said that she has participated the last two or three years, and that the agriculture students have jobs at the farm laboratory, and picking is just a part of the maintenance.

Above: Carrie Reeves catches oranges during the second day of the Agriculture Department's citrus sale.

Right: Jeff Firkins and Carrie Reeves cut and catch oranges for the Agriculture Department's for the citrus sale on Jan. 31.

JOHN ORNELAS / THE RIP

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## Music taught at CSUB

By OMAR RAMIREZ  
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Rip staff writer

The Music Teachers' Association of California, the American Guild of Organist and California State University Bakersfield came together under the Dore Dome to present Sandra Soderlund's workshop and master class titled "How Did They Play? How Did They Teach?" that focused on keyboard instruments.

This event attracted a variety of ages from men and women above 40 to young children under 11.

Upon entering, guests were given a program announcing whom would be playing, a brief history on Soderlund and musical pieces that Soderlund would be playing.

Soderlund is viewed primarily as an organist, but she plays a variety of keyboard instruments.

In the past, she has attended and earned degrees at Stanford University, the University of Southern California and Bethany College in Lindsborg, Kansas.

She has published a book titled "How Did They Play? How Did They Teach? A History of Keyboard Technique," and has played the organ at churches in the San Francisco Area.

She currently teaches harpsichord and organ at Mills College in Oakland.

The workshop was divided into two sections. The first half was a workshop that was two hours long.

During this time, Soderlund would use musical terms, historical facts and demonstrations on keyboard instruments to lecture the many teaching philosophies that pianists have developed for the musical education of young children.

After a 30-minute recess, the second portion began, known as the Master Class. This session was dedicated for students to receive feedback from Soderlund, in which they had to audition for.

Rock Feng, Victoria Choi, Micah Naota, Byron Mui Jr. and Brian Liu were chosen out of the few who auditioned and they each played a different musical piece from different eras.

Donna Calanchini is the president of the Music Teachers' Association of California as well as a pianist and a teacher.

She had a very positive view on this event and looks forward to future projects similar to this.



|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <b>Feb. 7</b><br>Author Eric Schlosser, Cal State Bakersfield's Dore Theater, 7 p.m. | BC softball vs. Oxnard, Bakersfield College, 2:30 p.m.                                      | Bakersfield College, women's at 5:30 and men's at 7:30 p.m.   |
| BC softball vs. Fresno, Bakersfield College, 2:30 and 4:30 p.m.                      | BC baseball vs. Oxnard, Bakersfield College, 7 p.m.   | Kan. William American Hustle Tour, Fox Theater, 7 p.m.  |
| BC baseball vs. Modesto, Bakersfield College, 7 p.m.                                 | Breakfast with Eric Schlosser, Beale Memorial Library Auditorium, 7 a.m.                    | Washington's Day Holiday<br>BC baseball at Visalia, 2 p.m.  |
| BC softball vs. Santa Barbara, Bakersfield College, 5 p.m.                           | Harlem Globetrotters, Rabobank Arena, 7 p.m.  | <b>Feb. 19</b><br>BC baseball vs. Fresno City, Bakersfield College, 6 p.m.                                |
| Film screening of "Supersize Me," Beale Memorial Library Auditorium, 7 p.m.          | <b>Feb. 15-18</b><br>Whiskey Hat Days, Kernville, noon                                      | BC softball vs. Altam Hancock, Bakersfield College, 2:30 p.m.   |
| <b>Feb. 9-10</b><br>BC softball at Irvine, Green and Gold Tournament, IBA            | <b>Feb. 15</b><br>Lincoln's Day Holiday<br>Sunkey's Stars on Ice, Rabobank Arena, 7:30 p.m. | Peter Pan, Rabobank Theater, 7:30 p.m.  |
| <b>Feb. 9</b><br>BC baseball vs. San Diego Mesa, Bakersfield College, 8 p.m.         | BC basketball at West LA, women's at 5:30 p.m. and men's at 7:30 p.m.                       | <b>Feb. 20</b><br>BC basketball vs. Glendale, Bakersfield College, women's at 5:30 and men's at 7:30 p.m. |
| 3rd Annual Lifetime Derby 2008, Riverwalk Park, 7 a.m.                               | Dramatic reading of "East Food Nation" and "Chew on This," Barnes and Noble, 7 p.m.         | Panel Discussion on "Fast Food Nation," Bakersfield College Library, 7 p.m.                               |
| <b>Feb. 10</b><br>BC baseball vs. Moorpark, Bakersfield College, 3 p.m.              | <b>Feb. 16-18</b><br>BC softball at Visalia, COB Tournament, tentative schedule             | Bakersfield Jam vs. Fort Wayne Mad Ants, Rabobank Arena, 7 p.m.   |
| <b>Feb. 12</b><br>BC baseball at San Luis Obispo, 7 p.m.                             | <b>Feb. 16</b><br>BC basketball vs. Santa Monica  | <b>Feb. 21</b><br>BC softball at Glendora, 2 p.m.   |

Digital Underground, Fishlips, 8 p.m.

COMPILED BY MARCINDA COIL / THE RIP

# FEATURES

## Cars crushed at Energy and Clean Air Exposition

By QUINN SCHLUSSEL  
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Rip staff writer

With the horrible sound of metal against metal, a small Toyota Camry met its fate, smashed into a pancake by a car-crushing machine.

The machine was designed and painted to look like a monster, leech on the two plates that were used to compress the automobiles into cubes and eyes above it, baring the words, "Taking a bite out of smog."

The audience applauded as a bulldozer extracted the remains of the

car, placing the demolished vehicle on top of two others. All three of the cars together now took up less space than any one of them uncrushed.

The announcer chuckled for a moment before saying "Now, that's what you call a compact automobile."

This started the 2008 Bakersfield Energy and Clean Air Business Exposition, a one-day event that focused on educating the public and businesses how to practice energy conservation, and how to cut back on pollution.

The expo consisted of car-crushing demonstrations, hybrid car

test-drives, exhibits that showcased different environmentally-friendly technologies and a luncheon.

The luncheon, which was served to officially start the expo, was attended by the mayor of Bakersfield Harvey Hall, who formally recognized the Pacific Gas and Electric Company as the Environmental Business of the Year.

PG&E was given this recognition for constantly switching old technologies to more current and energy-efficient models, saving consumers an estimated 10 billion dollars.

The next speaker at the luncheon

was Glen Craig, a representative for North High, who was the first school in the Kern High School District to begin using clean air based curriculum called Clean Air Challenge.

The third and final speaker at the luncheon was Cindy Tuck, undersecretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency.

Tuck spoke primarily on the involvement of the state government with the preservation of clean air in the valley, saying that "it would be irresponsible for California not to act."

She identified the primary cause of air pollution as being "ozone and

particulate matter," and the reason so much ozone and particulate matter existed in the valley was because of the large amount of diesel equipment both from trucks and agricultural equipment.

Tuck then explained a few bills being put forth to regulate diesel equipment and hopefully lessen the amount of pollution in the valley.

After the luncheon ended, the exhibits opened to the public, showcasing everything from solar power panels that could be attached to houses, to zero emission cars that were powered by natural gas.

## Sign language and spaghetti

By LAUREN KIZZIAR  
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Rip staff writer

Spaghetti Western Night at the Norris Road Veterans' Hall was far from an old Sergio Leone western film and more of a dinner with a five hand. Quota International of Bakersfield is a non-profit service group that specifically focuses on the deaf and hard-of-hearing in Bakersfield.

Being the only service group in Bakersfield that focuses on the deaf and hard-of-hearing, it is a tight-knit community that hosts events to get the deaf and hard-of-hearing to mingle with others.

Andra Miller has been a member since 1986 and has been both president and treasurer. She learned sign language at the age of 15 and is al-



Jonathan Tikhonoff signs during the spaghetti dinner that was provided by the Quota club Feb. 2.

most completely deaf without her hearing aide.

For the third year, Quota has hosted a Spaghetti Western Night as a fundraiser for the organization.

Luigi's donated the spaghetti dinner and Tommy Hays and the Westerm Swingers provided live music for all in attendance.

Elderly couples line danced to the music and children ran around dancing in circles, laughing and singing.

A 50/50 Drawing and a silent auction also raised money for the organization. The silent auction had baskets full of bath products, candles, children's toys, BBQ sauces, wines and even blankets.

Janet Skibinski, also a member of Quota, said that they raised \$7,000 and had over 350 people attending. According to Skibinski, all of the

## Bi-annual show had 192 quilts

By BIANCA HERNANDEZ  
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Rip staff writer

Almost every inch of the building at the Kern County Fairgrounds was covered with patchwork reminiscent of a craft from long ago.

The quilts on display ranged from traditional Dutch dolls, to dragons, and even the Denver Broncos.

The bi-annual Quilt Show, which is the main fundraiser for the Cotton Patch Quilter's Guild, was held Jan. 25 and 26. Stefani McChesney, the Publicity Chairman, says the quilt starts planning this event a year ahead of time.

According to McChesney, 192 quilts were featured in this year's fair. Ribbons were awarded in various categories, including applique, pieced and mixed.

Cindy Seitz-Krug, who has been quilting for 15 years and has taught several workshops around town, was a featured quilter at the fair.

"I don't do any of it for money, just a hobby," said Seitz-Krug.

She also makes her own patterns and says she finds inspiration from

tile work, architecture and stained glass.

The quilt takes part in a program called Home of the Brave, which gives quilts to families who have lost someone in war.

Another charitable activity the quilt takes part in, is making quilts to cover Isolette incubators that are used for premature babies.

According to McChesney, the quilt makes 300 to 400 of these quilts a year.

This craft may seem time consuming and difficult, but said McChesney, "I'm an average quilter, and I made 15 this year."

Sally Knox, recently retired, expressed an interest in quilting. "It's just amazing what people do with fabric," said Knox. "It's always fascinated me."

This craft isn't just for women, according to McChesney. They drag in their husbands to do the heavy lifting.

"Ninety percent of people leave, and if they like quilting, they'll go home and do it themselves because it's so neat," said Seitz-Krug. "It's very addictive."

# CAMPUS

## Communication Department receives award

By ELIZABETH MEEKS  
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Rip staff writer

And the award goes to... Bakersfield College's Communication Department.

BC's Communication Department was awarded the Western States Communication Association's 2008 Model Teaching award.

The WSCA is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to unify communication professionals who wish to improve and promote interests and programs. WSCA includes members from Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Nevada, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, California, Alaska and Hawaii.

The Model Teaching program award, which is given annually, has criteria to include five aspects of what a stellar program should entail. The program should reflect the breadth and/or depth of the communication discipline, have teaching personnel with specialized training in communication, integrate curricular and co-curricular activities, have strong administrative support, and relate to the mission of the particular institution.

Michele Bresso, a communication professor at BC, submitted the application on behalf of the department.

"This award speaks volumes about the department. We wouldn't have won without the entire team," said

Bresso.

In order to transfer out of BC or graduate, students are required to complete a three-unit communication class, commonly known as public speaking (COMM 101). However, there is more to the Communication Department than public speaking.

BC offers 11 different communication classes, including Interpersonal Communication (102), Persuasive Communication (104), Rhetoric and Argumentation (106), Intercultural Communication (107), Small Group Communication (108), Forensics and Debate (109 and 110), and new this semester is Leadership Communication. Connected to the Communication Department is the Journalism

program, which includes classes on reporting, photography and newspaper production.

"Communication has concepts and theories that change people's lives, it is a valuable tool for students and people in the community," said A. Todd Jones, department chair and a communication professor at BC.

Jones began growing the department five years ago by adding on average five classes each semester. "Our goal is to add 100 sections in the next five years," said Jones.

With BC leading the way for the communication model for the entire Western United States, students may feel confident that the skills learned in the classroom will filter into their personal life.

Jones said, "We are here to enhance people's goals, not change them." Communication will help people socially, personally and professionally.

"There are two key elements in the success of the Communication Department beyond the classroom," explained Bresso.

"First, we love this field. It is so important in helping people achieve goals, and each one of us is willing to step up to the plate."

Another facet of the Communication Department is the Communication ambassador program, in which students run the communication certificate program, and high school outreach programs to name a few.

In order to become an ambassador,

you first must be nominated by a professor at BC and then attend a series of interviews. The ambassadors are hand selected by the Communication Department.

Students who complete a minimum of 12 units of communication class will earn a Communication certificate that may be added to future employment applications.

BC's Communication Department has also been chosen to head a workshop April 3 for the Kern County Community District.

Students should not fear public speaking or communicating with others.

"Those skills will improve life relationships, employment and the quality of their existence," said Bresso.

## BC drum line continues growth

By OMAR RAMIREZ  
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Rip staff writer

Ever since its debut over a year ago, the Bakersfield College's drum line continues to exist in the halls of the Speech, Arts and Music building.

The BC drum line made it clear that they were going to incorporate a style of drumming which is meant to entertain and make people move, and they have been true to their word.

Zalida Garcia, a former West Bakersfield High School base drummer, says, "I saw it in their face, how much fun they were having, and how they got me... and their movement too."

Ever since last spring, the drum line has entertained large crowds from local high school competitions held by Pep & Percussion Arts Association of Central California to pumping up crowds at Bakersfield College's football games.

There are some students like Yolanda Davis, a BC student, who haven't had the chance to see the drum line and all of its talent but all agree that they would like to see more of them around campus and other events.

Originally, the drum line was founded by Mark McGuire and Dave Ellis but due to some health problems, Mark McGuire had to step down from his position as concert band director. The position has been filled by Tim Heasley.

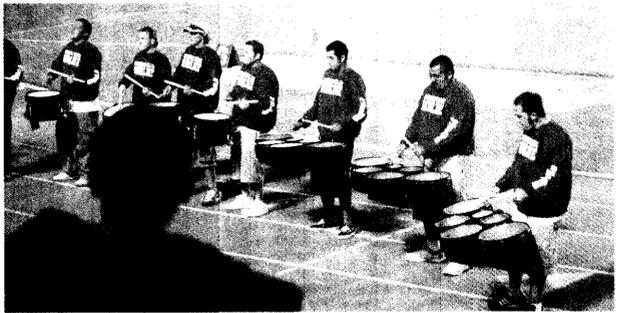
Heasley is a music instructor who is a community specialist and also helps with the percussion and wind ensemble at West High School as well as other high schools.

When asked what he thought about the drum line, Heasley said, "It's very impressive... these are basically the cream of the crop of the high school in the area."

Dave Ellis, another instructor in the group, believes that this program gives high school graduates a chance to practice a talent that one can't really use in their work place. But Ellis seems confident in this program because, according to him, "Everyone loves drum line stuff."

Even though the BC drum line gets some financial help, it doesn't seem enough to start a front ensemble, which consists of instruments such as marimbas, xylophones and chimes.

According to Ellis, even with help from those companies, the price to compete comes to \$50,000. However, they hope to have everything they



The BC drum line performs at a football game against El Camino on Sept. 29, 2007.

## Report talks financial aid

By AMBER TROUPE  
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Rip staff writer

According to reports, California's community colleges are not reaching maximum potential for information available to students about financial aid.

Reports show that some changes don't make aid available until weeks after the semester starts.

Colleges are not allowing for students to be informed that financial aid can help cover certain educational expenses. It stated that a typical community college student spends about \$15,000 a year on books, housing and transportation.

The report's author, Deborah Frankle Cochran, said, "Low fees don't guarantee access to a college education in California and no matter which college they attend, students should be able to find out about financial aid, get help applying for it, and receive it when they need it."

The report has recommendations for the CCC's system. Policy makers, state and federal, need to guarantee that students have the means to receive the aid and that it shouldn't depend on which colleges they attend.

A few of the policies and procedures listed are that the California legislature should increase and expand the Cal Grant B to supply a larger amount of state aid to a larger share of students.

Bakersfield College's financial aid adviser Joan Wegner verified that BC does ensure that aid recipients have money for textbooks by supplying them with book loans.

As for broadcasting financial aid services, Wegner said, "Yes, BC provides adequate information through a cross-training program where the attending students, and all the staff participate in a public outreach in the community as well as on campus promotions."

"The goal is to give out pamphlets or binders that contain information on services and provide contacts," added Wegner.

Wegner does agree that colleges should reevaluate policies and procedures.

"BC abides by federal and state regulations for screening applicants for financial aid," said Wegner. "BC does have their own policies that can be altered for their personal academic standards for recipients to continue receiving financial aid," continued Wegner.

Wegner recommends that students complete FAFSA forms by the priority filing date on March 2.

According to an e-mail sent from Scott Lay, the CEO of the Community College League of California to chief financial aid officers, about 40 percent of the Cal Grants available to community college students would be eliminated under the governor's proposal.

The proposal would phase out a program that currently serves 42,000 community college students with an average family income of \$15,110 and instead favors the "entitlement" program, which serves students with an average income twice that.

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**Attention BC Students**

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For more information contact Activities Liaison Ruth Kresha at 661-395-4354 Or visit the Student Government Association at CC4

**BC looks to 2012 at accreditors' behest**

A three-person committee is implementing a strategic plan to improve Bakersfield College.

By GABINO VEGA ROSARIO & EARL PARSONS  
Rip staff writers

The Renegade 2012 Plan looks in the future of Bakersfield College in forms of economic climate, student needs, technology factors, political climate, cultural environment and the community needs. The plan's primary goal is to create a view of the future in five years, and how BC will be affected by changes on the way.

The theory of the plan working should result on student's academic, personal and occupational success. "We are going to evaluate our mission and values," said Gerhold.

According to Gerhold, BC's top values should be history, tradition, education and people (students, staff and administration).

Advanced planning is taking place and has been since the fall of 2006 by Ann Morgan, an administrator, Jennifer Marden, union representative, and Gerhold. "Most institutes have strategic plans every five years," mentioned Gerhold.

"The last time BC has gone through a strategic plan was in 1999." The accreditation team came to BC and said that BC has to have a strategic plan before the year 2009 in order to have a fair view of BC's route.

Some key result areas the Renegade 2012 Plan is trying to look at are things like communication, link ages, student success, image and fiscal responsibility.

According to the Renegade 2012 Plan pamphlet, "Revisers must trust the content and be able to discern between messages that are essential and those that are peripheral."

According to Gerhold, these topics are the areas BC has to look out for in order to be successful. "The Plan is not a response to a weakness but express a desire for the campus to be the best it can," said Gerhold.

On January 18, faculty members had the Renegade Roundtable All-Campus Summit to introduce the Plan to other faculty members.

According to Gerhold, everybody who attended was put into groups and asked to write down what they thought BC was doing well on and a pro/con note. Ideas to improve BC were in the air and ideas were introduced to figure out how this plan was going to move forward, including worldwide events were discussed in order to see if it had an impact on BC.

"For some people this area was the hardest," mentioned Gerhold. "Because some found it difficult to think outside of their own area."

More information about the Renegade 2012 plan can be found on the 2012 Web site at www.bccc.edu/2012.

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# OPINION

## STAFF EDITORIAL

### Prop 92 demise unfair

The landslide failure of California Proposition 92 is indicative of how union clout and skillful misinformation can defeat a well-intended initiative that was essential to the continued success of the California Community College system.

The California Teachers Association, realizing it would lose the extra elementary and secondary education they manage to steal from community colleges every year under the current Proposition 98 standard, went against the wishes of some of their own union members and opposed 92, tuition fees to \$15 a unit and ensured community colleges would receive the 10.56 percent of Proposition 98 that the legislature had been promising them since 1988. This pragmatic approach to union politics is a poor way of representing community college students and faculty members.

Californians For Fair Education Funding, the umbrella group that opposed Proposition 92, of which the CTA is a member, framed the debate to make it look as if community colleges were asking for too much, but they were simply asking for what was promised from the legislature all along.

With the reaction from K-12 organizations to Proposition 92, it greater illustrates the need for community colleges to be funded independently of K-12. Basing the growth formula that determines funding on young adult population rather than K-12 enrollment, which was one of the factors addressed in Proposition 92, is a more accurate estimation of growth, as K-12 schools have fundamentally different needs than community colleges, which have wider-stretching socioeconomic and cultural disparities. While California is in the middle of a budget crisis, Proposition 92 was necessary to protect community college students from being scammed like students in the California State University and University of California systems, whose tuition hikes continue to make four-year education increasingly less accessible to less-affluent Californians.

Community college is supposed to be a place where disadvantaged and non-traditional students can get a quality education at a reasonable price. In turn, these people can attain successful careers, thereby supporting California and the nation's fledgling economy.

Critics claim Proposition 92 fails to hold community colleges accountable for their funds. In actuality, it's holding Sacramento accountable for the funds they've promised community colleges. Sacramento wasn't very accountable in 2004, when tuition rates rose to \$26 per unit and 305,000 people were unable to attend school.

California is home to one of the cheapest community college tuitions in America, but it might not last that long if the legislators and the California Teachers Association get their way.

## Primary system poorly representative

By QUINN SCHLUSSEL  
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Rip staff writer

Super Tuesday has come and gone, and some of you may be truly excited to have been a part in our wonderful democratic system.

Many of you, like thirsty students at a vending machine, have made a selection, pressed a button and taken whatever outcome you were given, never giving a second thought to the process that gives the outcome to you.

Truth be told, it is not a simple process, and it is one that often begs the question "does my vote really count?" And because of the nature of the primaries, for some states, their vote really does not count, the nominations for president get locked in before they can have their say.

The one problem with the system that leads to all the other problems is this: the form and date of each state's primary is decided by each individual party per each individual state.

Dividing the dates of the primaries into separate sections gives the votes to be influenced in certain ways that might not have otherwise happened.

For instance, the first primary election of the year was the Iowa caucuses. This means that Iowa, which is composed mostly of wealthy white farmers, is capable of awarding the winning candidate a free few days of positive publicity, despite the fact that in the long run Iowa is worth very little delegates. And then the New Hampshire primaries start and the process repeats.

Then, later in the year, the primaries in states such as New Mexico and Nebraska do not matter, the states are worth so few delegates and the elections take place so late in the year that most of the time the nominees have already been decided despite the fact that the primaries are not over.

On top of that, all primaries before the arbitrary date of Feb. 5 are worth half as many delegates of those after or on Feb. 5. Meaning that if your state decides to have an early primary, your vote is only worth half of what it is supposed to.

Different states mean different systems as well.

In California we may vote for any candidate so long as we register in the party. In some other states, registering is not necessary. You merely pick a party and vote. States such as Florida and Colorado have closed primaries, where you are required to be a member in order to vote in the respective elections.

It is obvious that the system needs to be changed, and either the state governments need to standardize and coordinate the events, or the national government needs to step in and make sure that the votes are collected in a way that accurately decides upon a candidate.

## Sniff out the injustice

By KYLE BEALL  
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Opinion editor

The Kern High School District is debating on whether to utilize drug-sniffing dogs on high school campuses. Though well intended, I fear that this is just one more step in the narrow state direction.

The more freedoms and privacy-related issues we allow to be controlled the less we ultimately have. Our liberties should not be relinquished lightly. The precedent has already been set to allow this, but that doesn't mean that we can't speak out about it now.

Despite the fact that we should all do what can to prevent the youth from falling into such a destructive lifestyle, I, for one, am concerned about how we are going about it.

Granted, there are no right answers. But, as the Californian has reported, this program has yet to "produce any measurable results" at both Garces Memorial and Bakersfield Christian high schools.

Keeping drugs off school campuses doesn't ultimately keep kids from doing drugs. It does, however, expose young adults to the possibility of being detained and searched based on a dog's deductive reasoning.

I understand the need for security to ensure our children's safety, but do we really want our educational facilities to be policed?

Will the dogs prevent someone from using the drugs before going to school? Will it keep them from stashing it somewhere off campus? What about vehicles? Will they patrol the parking lots? Where will it end?

I fail to see how this type of program will be effective and I believe that our tax dollars are just being tossed down the drain.

Prevention and education is the ultimate deterrent. The real work starts at home. A program that "assists" families that suspects their children of doing drugs would be more beneficial in my opinion. I emphasize "assists" because, from my own experience, incarceration juveniles for experimentation, habits or addictions merely introduces those youths to the real criminal element.

Realize that in Juvenile Hall, children will be housed next to gang members, thieves, drug dealers, violent offenders and much more. The whole experience is negative, and the only positive result you can hope for is that fear will keep them clean.

If a high school student is detained by one of these dogs and they do find drugs, the situation is no longer in the parents' control.

The focus should always be to keep kids in schools and off drugs. Again, using our tax dollars to increase communication between families and schools, adding more preventative and educational programs, and home assistance when drug use is suspected would be money well spent, rather than spending \$20,000 to have our schools policed by dogs.

But in my experience working in retail, I often see people I have never seen before, sure there are regulars, but I'm constantly seeing new faces and new people.

The bottom line is, whether the economy is doing well or not, Bakersfield continues to be a city that is less expensive to live in than many other cities and suburbs in California and features a quiet town-like community with a little bit of the city thrown in.

In every direction you go from Bakersfield, times are changing and Bakersfield is too.

being built with an idea of extreme growth in population, but with the economy and the housing market in a negative position, will Bakersfield continue to grow and thrive?

I've heard people say that it sometimes seems as though there aren't very many people living here. You see the same people that you know all the time around town. If you're a Bakersfield native, forget about it. You'll run into people from high school and previous jobs all the time.

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ALLY ARMSTRONG / THE RIP

## Bakersfield grows in all directions with population

By CRYSTAL ROBERTS  
croberts@bakersfieldcollege.edu  
Rip staff writer

The city of Bakersfield has expanded in every direction possible, from the north and northeast to the south and southwest. Bakersfield continues to develop new housing projects and continues to build new schools, stores and parks.

It is evident that the city of Bakersfield is

being built with an idea of extreme growth in population, but with the economy and the housing market in a negative position, will Bakersfield continue to grow and thrive?

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## 'GADE FEEDBACK

Who is your least favorite presidential candidate?



Triston Jacobs, business: "Hillary. She's a swaggar jacker."



George Rivera, undeclared: "Hillary. When she did her nomination, she cried. When we go under attack, will she cry?"



Robert Alexander, business: "Hillary. Just because she stepped in head first."



Tia Michon, art: "Mitt Romney because he's arrogant."



Ernest Acosta, business: "Clinton. I've heard Obama's speeches, and he's good."



Rosa Zuniga, psychology and dance: "I don't really have one, but my favorite is Hillary."

Compiled by Ally Armstrong / The Rip

## 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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# REVIEWS

## Come in or drive through Maui Pho BBQ Grill

By CRYSTAL ROBERTS  
croberts@bakersfieldcollege.edu  
Rip staff writer

Maui Pho Fusion Barbecue Grill is a new "fastaurant" that catches your attention as you drive on busy Ming Avenue.

I call it a "fastaurant" because the food can be purchased at the drive-thru like a fast-food restaurant, or eaten inside a nice interior. The food is cooked to order similar to a sit down restaurant.

The restaurant featured a very modern look, complete with a plasma

screen television and a colorful decor that gave the restaurant a '60s twist.

I entered the restaurant at about noon with high expectations. I have eaten at many Chinese restaurants and have developed a very high standard for food of this type.

I opened the very tall glass doors and was amazed at the modern look that the little building had. I immediately noticed how clean the restaurant was and the new amenities the restaurant featured.

I arrived at the main counter eager to see what was on the menu. The person who was in charge of taking the order did not greet me, and seemed as though he was growing very impatient with his job in general.

I noticed at the front of the counter were free samples of won tons that

were covered in cinnamon and sugar. I took a won ton and tried to decide what to order as I stepped back to look at the menu, which featured many other foods like teriyaki chicken, orange chicken, and even some Vietnamese dishes.

I decided to order the pineapple chicken. The meal included a single egg roll and white rice.

My food was brought out to me in about ten minutes on a plastic plate and was steaming hot.

The pineapple chicken was very fresh, juicy and tasted as if it was hot off the grill; it was smothered in pineapple syrup and also had large chunks of fresh pineapple in it.

The egg roll was filled with different vegetables that tasted very fresh, and it was also hot and crunchy.

The white rice was also warm and was served in a large portion.

Maui Pho Fusion Barbecue Grill was very clean and had no tables that were unclean or unset. All tables had utensils and were cleaned promptly.

The food was excellent, the atmosphere was modern, and the price was fair. My total came to \$9.62, including a drink; this was not bad for a large portion of fresh food and an extremely clean atmosphere.

The customer service was probably the worst I have had in a long time. The cashiers were very unenthusiastic and didn't smile or seem personable at all.

The food and cleanliness over looked the bad customer service, and for that reason I would recommend Maui Pho Fusion Barbecue.

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Maui Pho, located on Ming Avenue, mixes drive-thru service with a pleasant interior decor.

## Supersize your awareness

Eric Schlosser's "Fast Food Nation," chosen as this year's "One Book, One Bakersfield" book, exposes the greed of the fast food industry.

By MARCINDA COIL  
marcinda@yahoo.com  
Features editor

Though it has existed for seven years, Eric Schlosser's "Fast Food Nation: The Dark Side of the All-American Meal" remains unforgettable by those who have read it and shocking for those who have yet to read it.

In fact, "Fast Food Nation" and "Chew On This," both written by Schlosser, are the chosen books by the "One Book, One Bakersfield, One Kern" program to be read and critically discussed by the community.

I couldn't agree more that this book should be actively read by everyone because the fast-food industry affects everyone.

Schlosser, who is an investigative journalist, began his journey with an idea to explore the socialization of the fast-food industry.

What he found was so much more than it deserved a book to include all of the startling realities.

Most people know the impact that fast food has on the increasing obesity epidemic. It is undeniable.

However, a lot of people ignore the high levels of saturated fat, sugar and sodium because of its convenience.

People feel that it is better to feel full than to feel hungry.

But many people do not realize that they are consuming more than just saturated fat, sugar and sodium, and Schlosser addresses this issue in his book.

Are the flavors people taste in that juicy hamburger produced by what nature has to offer?

No matter if people are employed by what the organizations, Schlosser explains how all of us are affected by the fast-food industry. Thus, we all should read his book.

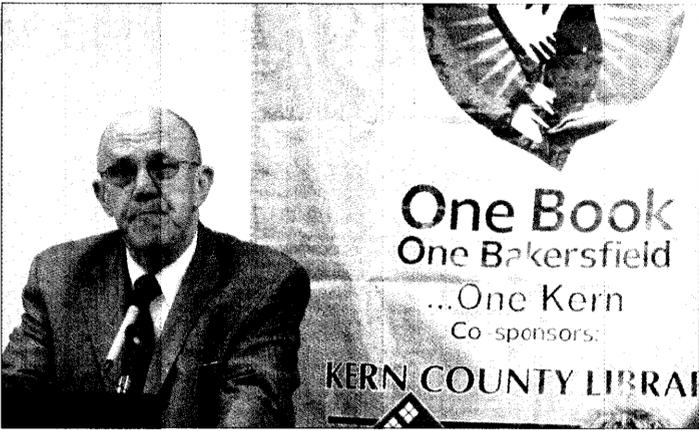
Though the book is not new, the issues that Schlosser addresses are even more relevant, and "One Book, One Bakersfield, One Kern" is doing their part to put a spotlight on these issues by hosting a number of events celebrating the book.

The organization is composed of various community members and organizations that are dedicated to highlighting books relevant to Kern County.

"It's a real key issue in our community," said Director of Public Health Services John Nilon at the Kick Off Ceremony held at Bakersfield College's Renegade Room on Jan. 24.

Among the various events scheduled through Feb. 29 are panel discussions and an author visit during which Schlosser will be discussing his book and autographing his books.

A list of events can also be found at the Reference Desk located inside BC's library, and all events are free and open to the public.



Larry Reider from the Kern County Superintendent of Schools speaks at Bakersfield College Jan. 24 about the "One Book, One Bakersfield" program.

Or are those flavors produced by what science has to offer?

The answers are astonishing. Not only did Schlosser investigate what is contained in the food, he reveals abrupt revelations about work environments, including the ranches, the meat-packing industries and the restaurants.

During the Industrial Revolution, many people endured horrific working conditions because speed and fast service was more of a concern than safety.

However, safety was a concern for employees; thus, they gave birth to unions.

But how much have conditions changed?

According to Schlosser, not much has changed. There are no unions in the fast-food industry.

Small farms can be replaced by corporate farms.

Fast-food employees can be replaced by younger employees.

Meat-packing employees can be replaced by more immigrant employees.

There are always eager employees to replace rebellious employees, and Schlosser discusses why.

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## Movie is one big gimmick

By AMBER TROUPE  
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Rip staff writer

When I first started to watch the movie "Cloverfield," I thought to myself, am I in the right theater? It did start off slow.

If you like science fiction movies, stay tuned. It took about 15 minutes for the action to start. The storyline was hard to understand and gave no tools to interpret it.

The whole movie was a recording of the events leading up to Cloverfield, where aliens create their own habitat on Earth.

The rest of the movie was basically about survivors trying to hide from the falling buildings.

I didn't get to see any of the villains until almost the end.

During the running scenes, I actually got a glimpse of the bat-like aliens that were taking over planet Earth.

I wasn't able to get the connection between the aliens and the Cloverfield on Earth.

The lasers that they were shooting out of their mouths were what actually changed the components of the Earth to produce a green field.

The whole movie was in the style of a man running with a camera.

The scenes were shaky, and some were even upside down. It was hard for me to pay attention to the scene that was.

I didn't like their technique in order to express the actual possibility that aliens could come and make a new home by destroying all the buildings and eating people.

I wasn't too fond of the sequence of the scenes. It was most confusing.

The only thing that I did find interesting was the special effects.

How could we make anything appear real.

The scene where the aliens were shooting the lasers out of their mouths was awesome.

# NEWS

## GET receives money from Homeland Security

By **TYRONE C. BARNER**  
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Rip staff writer

On Dec. 18, California Homeland Security Director Matthew Bettenhausen delivered a check to Golden Empire Transit officials as the first installment toward improving mass transit security around the state. The check, worth \$41,000, was funded by voter-approved Prop 1B, a measure which Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger championed to improve

infrastructure, security and public safety. Gina Hayden, director of marketing for GET, said that they have already decided what to do with the money. At the transit station downtown and at Valley Plaza, there have been issues about the security of passengers, from drug dealing to gang activity, according to Hayden. Thus, they will be using the money for installing cameras to help curtail unwanted activity.

Hayden went on to say that they are currently campaigning for more people to ride the bus by improving the amount of time one has to wait for a bus and by increasing seats at the transit stops. Dwayne Mitchell, 52, with a major in business management, thinks that it's a good idea to get the cameras. He was also aware that they had audio/video camera on the buses and said that now he feels safe on the buses right now. "The threat to the transit systems

is one of the most fundamental challenges for us all," said Bettenhausen. GET Board Chair Chuck Michel accepted the check. He said, "These funds will help GET confront the challenges of keeping our residents and riders safe." BC student Paul Guerrero, 27, a welding major, said that he was aware that the buses had cameras. He said that he believed that they worked. He said that he did feel safe on the bus because he believed that most people have respect for each other, and that the bus drivers try to ensure that all is

well on their buses. Guerrero also expressed his belief that adding the cameras to the transit stations would deter certain people from hanging around the property where he has witnessed the sale of drugs and the exchange of stolen property. The governor's Office of Homeland Security is charged with administering the Prop 1B funds. It's part of California's strategy to protect its 37 million residents from man-made or natural disasters.

## Two things that don't mix

■ Robert Boston of Americans United visited BC to state his case on why it's important to keep religion and government separate.

By **KATHERINE J. WHITE**  
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Copy editor

The Religious Right is not dead, but it is dead wrong. This is what Robert Boston, assistant director of communications for the organization Americans United, said during a lecture at Bakersfield College Jan. 31 in BC's Fine Arts 31.

Boston, whose organization advocates the separation of church and state, flew in from Washington, D.C. He authored three books including "Why the Religious Right is Wrong."

Boston began his lecture by stressing that his organization's foe, the entity known as the Religious Right, is alive and well, and he cautioned listeners not to regard the Religious Right as "a spent force on the decline." "Like Dracula and Godzilla in the movies, it always comes back," Boston said. "The list of characters will change...but the Religious Right will always be a permanent part of the political scene," Boston said.

Boston emphasized that the Religious Right often does some good; religious groups have helped the homeless, indigent and alcoholics to name just a few. However, Boston said that his secular group believes the Religious Right should not use tax-payer money to fund religious schools and religious ministries, which might lead to government-imposed religious proselytizing.

One fear of Americans United and other secular groups is that religious organizations will use tax dollars to fund job-

training programs as well as substance-abuse treatment programs which will lead not only to job discrimination based on religion, but also to the withholding of government-funded social services based on religion. Religious groups should not be allowed access to government funds, nor should religion be draped in the mantle of government authority, Boston said.

"Religion should have a voice; government should not have a religious voice," Boston said. According to Boston, Americans United tear the intrusion of the Religious Right upon the current presidential campaign.

Many presidential candidates are trying to win religious voters. Lately, reporters have been asking presidential candidates what their favorite Bible verses are, and the like, instead of asking more pertinent questions concerning the economy and the war in Iraq, Boston said.

The reason why Christian conservatives believe that the Christian church and Christianity should merge with American politics is that the constitution is a Christian document, and that its framers were Christian, said Boston. That belief is wrong, said Boston. The constitution is a secular document, and its framers, most notably Thomas Jefferson, were more products of the Enlightenment period. Jefferson, according to Boston, was a deist, which means that he believed in God, but that he rejected the concepts of divine revelation and miracles, such as the virgin birth and idea of Jesus being God incarnate.

Furthermore, according to Boston, the framers of the constitution did not add the "In God We Trust" typically stamped on coins. The part "In God We Trust" came much later, around the time of the Civil War.

"How could a guy like Jefferson get through the red states," Boston asked. "A guy like that wouldn't be elected for any public office these days."



Robert Boston expresses his views about the separation of church and state at BC Jan. 31.

On a more serious note, however, Boston spoke of the various times in history when the concept of God and Christianity were twisted and abused. For example, in the early American colonies, non-Protestants and atheists could not hold office. Boston went on to mention that in Nazi Germany, officers sported belt buckles that bore the words, "God with us." Boston cautioned the audience to be wary of certain supposedly conservative "Christian" politicians such as Tom Delay and Newt Gingrich, "a thrice married, serial adulterer." Both of these politicians recently lectured on Christian family values.

"They would never impose Christian morality on them selves," Boston said.

# SPORTS

## Swim team off the blocks

■ Bakersfield College's newest sport is under way with 20 members and team captains for the men and women.

By **NICHOLAS SPARLING**  
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Rip staff writer

For the first time in 16 years, Bakersfield College will have a swim team again. Despite the rain, clouds and the cold, the team has been jumping right into the water six days a week for practice and spending three days a week out of the pool with weight practice.

According to swimmer Tim Escalante, "practice is tough but necessary in order to get into shape."

The number of swimmers wasn't quite what swim instructor and coach Charles Pike would have liked to have seen.

Only 11-12 males and eight females turned out for the team, half of Pike's ideal number of swimmers.

However, Pike doesn't feel that a small team will be entirely devastating to their season.

The team's first competition will be the John Joseph Conference Relays on Feb. 15. It will take place at Ventura College.

Pike is glad that their first meet is a relay, so no one will have to go at alone.

It will also give Pike the ability to feel out the team without putting any one swimmer on the spot.

Pike plans on the team becoming



The Bakersfield College swim team practices at the BC pool Jan. 30.

much more competitive as the season progresses.

"Because of our numbers we may run into some troubles with the dual meets, but I'm expecting the team to do well in state competition due to dedicated and outstanding swimmers who came out for the team," said Pike.

He is also planning to have the team build and become stronger in coming years.

Pike was hoping that the local media would help get the word out about the swim team, but it mainly relied on word of mouth.

The team had an information table in the middle of campus during the first week of school.

Pike also talked to many high school coaches, but he said he would like to have the chance to talk to interested students personally in the future.

CARA JACKSON / THE RIP

The team has a luau planned this summer for fund raising to provide necessary funds for the team; it will be their second fund raising event since the team's inception.

They plan on pulling in between \$2,000 and \$3,000 from the luau fundraiser. The team is trying to raise money for equipment and travel expenses to supplement the funding they receive from the school.

The team's first fund raiser was the U.S. Water Polo Nationals for women, a weeklong event held on campus and at Cal State-Bakersfield. The team was able to raise \$5,000 from the event.

Pike has already chosen team captains for the season.

Skylar VanAaken, from Carpin Memorial High School, will be the women's captain.

Matt Moon, from Taft High School, will be the captain for the men.

## Bower transfers to Tulsa

By **KYLE BEALL**  
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Opinion editor

Bakersfield College's starting quarterback Jacob Bower, who led the Renegades through a 12-1 season during the fall, will not be returning to BC.

Bower was recruited by the University of Tulsa's assistant head coach Gus Mazza after one of their quarterback recruits decided not to commit.

Tulsa's head coach Todd Graham said, "We're excited to have Jacob join our football program. He gives us three quarterbacks (senior David Johnson, sophomore Clark Harrell) that we really feel good about going into spring drills looking to replace Paul Smith," who graduated from Tulsa in December.

Bower received a full scholarship to Tulsa and will be competing with Johnson and Harrell for the starting quarterback position during Tulsa's spring drills, which start March 11.

Graham said, "I think this offense and the way we throw vertically down the field really excited Jacob. 'Jacob has all the intangibles that we're looking for in a quarterback,'" said Graham. "He's a mature kid who is big, strong, and has a great arm."

Tulsa led the nation in total offense this past season with an average of 543.9 yards per game.

Bower is joined by his wife, BC volleyball star Rachel Cox, who has been recruited to play volleyball for Tulsa Community College.

The newlyweds were married Nov. 1, 2007.

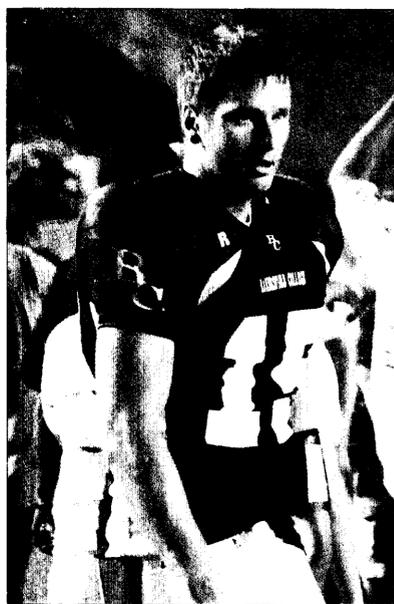
According to Bower, he wanted to stay and play another year at BC, but he felt that it was "too big of an opportunity to pass up."

Bower set several BC single season records last season. He completed 189 of 312 passes and totaled 35 touchdowns.

Despite being a little homesick, he is excited about the opportunity. "I loved Bakersfield. It was the best time of my life," said Bower.

BC head coach Jeff Chudy is excited for Bower as well.

Chudy said, "It's a great opportunity and that's what our job is. Our job is to help guys get them to



Former BC quarterback Jacob Bower after the game against El Camino Sept. 8.

the next level, academically and athletically, and we feel like we've done that with him. We gave him a great opportunity and he took advantage of it and he's on his way to being successful."

Chudy expects to have "five or six guys competing for the position in the summertime."

"Obviously, [Bower] a guy who broke a lot of our school records, and was a great competitor, and a good leader, and as a quarterback, he'll be able to do some things that we haven't done in a long time. He's certainly going to be missed, but that's the nature of what we do," said Chudy.

BC quarterback Joseph Maddox, from South High School, will be competing with the incoming freshmen to fill the starting quarterback position.

Chudy says he is excited to have a school where offensively they're probably the most prolific offense in Division I football right now, or they were last year, leading five offensive categories out of 117 schools; continued Chudy.

BC quarterback Joseph Maddox

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BC quarterback Joseph Maddox

## Two Rip staffers offer differing viewpoints on the Super Bowl

By **TAYLOR M. GOMBOS**  
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Sports editor

All season long, especially in the playoffs, the New York Giants had to hear how their team wasn't a top team or that their team could not win in the playoffs.

Well, not only did the Giants win in the playoffs, but they shocked the world by winning Super Bowl 42 against the heavily favored New England Patriots by a score of 17-14.

The Patriots came in with a record of 18-0, looking to match the '72 Miami Dolphins as the only team to go the whole season without a loss; the Giants on the other hand treated this game as though it was just another roadblock in their search for the franchise's third title.

The game started out with the Giants winning the toss and electing to receive the opening kickoff. The Giants on their first drive of the game went on a long 16-play drive that ended in a field goal to give them a 3-0 lead with 5:03 left in the first quarter.

The Patriots then came back with an impressive drive of their own as running back Lawrence Maroney scored a touchdown from 1 yard out to give the Patriots a 7-3 lead.

After scoring only 10 points, the two teams punted the ball a few times and each team turned the ball over once. The Giants and Patriots, after what was kind of a boring first half, headed into the locker room with the Patriots leading 7-3.

At halftime, Tom Petty and The Heartbreakers performed and put on a pretty good show, they sang four songs, but among those songs that were sung, "Free Falling" was my favorite one to hear. The performers even invited the fans in attendance down to the field to be a part of the show. It was a really good performance, but it was nothing compared to how the rest of the game went.

After halftime, the Patriots got the ball and took a bunch of time off the clock. During their possession, they were forced to punt. During a TV timeout, however, Patriots coach Bill Belichick decided to throw the challenge flag saying that the Giants had 12 men on the field.

Sure enough, after referee Mike Carey reviewed the play, it was determined that the Giants did indeed have 12 men on the field. The ruling prompted the refs to throw a flag on the Giants, which gave the Patriots a fresh set of downs. The Patriots continued the drive but nothing ended up coming from it as the Giants sacked Tom Brady.

The Patriots went for it on fourth and 13 but they didn't make it and had to turn the ball over on downs to the Giants.

The Giants took over but were unable to do anything and were forced to punt.



GABINO VEGA ROSARIO / THE RIP

The Patriots on their next drive started from their own 5-yard line, but they too were forced to punt.

The Giants took over and were determined to take the lead. Eli Manning started out his team's ninth drive by hitting tight end Kevin Boss for a 45-yard gain. On the same drive, the Giants were facing a third and four, Manning hit receiver Steve Smith for a huge first down. Manning then capped off the drive by throwing a touchdown pass to receiver David Tyree to give the Giants a 10-7 with 11:05 remaining in the game.

After the Giants took the lead, the two teams both punted.

With the Giants leading 10-7, Brady and the Patriots took over on their own 20-yard line. Brady hit receiver Wes Welker for five yard gain to start the drive, and ended the drive by throwing a touchdown pass to Randy Moss to put the Patriots back on top 14-10 with 2:42 to play in the game.

The Giants took over again on their own 17-yard line needing more than a field goal to win the game. Manning started off the drive by hitting Tyree for a 32-yard gain. Smith got into the act a few plays later by catching a pass for a first down on third and 11. Manning finished off the drive by

hitting a wide open Plaxico Burress for a touch down to give the Giants a 17-14 lead with 35 seconds left in the game.

After Burress handed in the pass, everyone that I was watching the game with, went crazy as we were all rooting for the Giants to win.

So here the nation was on the edge of its seats waiting to see if "The Golden Boy" Tom Brady could pull off yet another Super Bowl comeback.

After the kickoff, the Patriots had 29 seconds to at least try to tie the game. The Patriots tried their best but on fourth and 20 Brady's pass fell incomplete meaning that the New York Giants were the Super Bowl Champions.

I can truly say that the Super Bowl win by the Giants is a classic example of the underdog stunning the favorite. I was happy to see the Giants knock off such an overrated and arrogant team like the Patriots, who had a phenomenal season but just couldn't get it done in the clutch.

So what does this title mean for the Giants? It means that they are now the defending champions and will wear a target on their chest going into next season. However, for now they can just savor their victory.

By **MARCINDA COIL**  
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News editor

Yes, my team won the Super Bowl.

In case it was missed, the New York Giants faced off with the New England Patriots. The Giants won 17-14.

I chose the Giants because, going by my fellow Super Bowl enthusiasts and sports broadcasters, they were the underdogs.

I was stoked when the broadcaster announced, "Giants strike first to night" 3-0. However, I knew there was still plenty of game left.

Soon, the Patriots struck back, 7-3.

It didn't matter.

Besides, the Super Bowl is more than just another football game. It is also a social event.

Many people take the opportunity to drink alcohol, eat junk food and converse with family and friends.

It is the last of the holiday season; only this holiday is more relaxed. So, adults can just enjoy the game and, of course, enjoy the best commercials.

The first of the abnormal commercials did not take the spotlight until just before the kick off.

It featured some characters from FOX's "Prison Break" trying to escape from an underground tunnel at University of Phoenix's football stadium during the Super Bowl.

Because I am a fan of "Prison Break," I found it hilarious when a football player smashed into T-Bag.

Another funny commercial included geckos displaying their dancing talents to Michael Jackson's "Thriller."

Though it was not Michael Jackson, but Tom Petty who was chosen to play four classic songs during the half-time show. It was during this time that the 100 proof Southern Comfort was cracked open, and the third quarter began.

The third quarter was all about the commercials because no one scored during this time.

I found etch.com's commercial amusing for the whole family, even

my 1-year-old niece laughed.

It featured a baby on the computer, talking as an adult.

Who doesn't enjoy babies and animals speaking perfect English?

However, I found the Bud Light commercials to be the most anticipated.

One featured a few guys attending what seems to be a wine tasting party with their wives or girlfriends. They all seemed excited, bringing a huge block of cheese, bread and a wine box.

However, it was all in incognito. Hidden within each item was a six-pack of Bud Light and a TV displaying the Super Bowl. That is what I call a compromise.

Another Budweiser commercial played on the "Rocky" theme. It featured a Dalmatian witnessing the embarrassment of a horse's rejection. Though I could not tell exactly what the horse was being rejected from, it was not the point of the commercial.

The Dalmatian volunteers to help train the horse for the event next year, all the while the "Rocky" theme song plays in the background. Needless to say, the horse was able to participate the following year.

The covenanter, however, I found to be the best commercial because it was funny and actually involved the product being advertised.

It all began with the hardship of the covenanter trying to carry a load of beer, until one of their fellow covenanter presented them with the wheel. However, they find themselves carrying more of a load by carry both the wheel and the beer.

"Wheel suck," said one of the covenanters.

At the end, one smashes a bottle of beer, "Bottle opener suck." It was hilarious.

More amusing commercials can be found at mispace.com/superbowls.

It was not until the fourth quarter that New York posed a challenge, 10-7, which New England took, 14-10.

However, the Giants became serious, fought back and won, 17-14. "Resilience" won.

Not only were the commercials good, the game was, too.

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