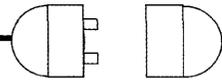




# THE PLUG



## School is not out for summer

The week before finals, students prepare for exams, anticipating the summer vacation ahead. While some prepare for vacation, some students and teachers prepare for summer school.

### Summer school needs differ for each student

By EARL PARSONS  
eparsons@bakersfieldcollege.edu  
Features editor

The necessary classes a summer school student should take, as well as the summer school experience, are often dependent on the student's needs, according to two Bakersfield College professors and a counselor.

New students, especially those coming straight out of high school, should take English, reading and math classes first, according to BC counselor Sandra Sierra.

Sierra also advised transfer students from universities to take classes that fulfill general education requirements, as they can fulfill similar requirements at the university level for a lower cost, adding that continuing students should take any necessary classes that are available.

"I always try to encourage students to take classes when they're offered," said Sierra.

If a student has a strong assessment or shows good grades in previous semesters, Sierra would recommend that the student take a full load, but would probably feel otherwise for a student who has low assessment scores or has not performed well.

BC communication professor Michelle Bresso is teaching COMM B1 (Public Speaking) and COMM B8 (Small Group Communication) sections this summer. She said that summer school is great for students looking to focus on their major.

Since students are only allowed to take a maximum of seven units in summer school, it "allows you to immerse yourself in your classes," she said.

While summer school only lasts six weeks, the classes are longer and take place from Monday through Thursday, equating to the same number of hours as a fall or spring section.

However, as BC history professor Randal Beeman, who is teaching HIST 15B (History of California) and HIST 17B (History of United States, 1870 - Today) sections this summer said, "The reality is, it's hard to get in the same material."

Bresso said that while there is some time for flexibility, teaching summer school requires being on point, adding that "every segment of the teaching time is precious."

Beeman and Bresso both felt that summer school students, on average, show a lot of focus, since they come primarily from out of high school and four-year schools.

Bresso said that they are typically "very committed" and few drop, adding that "it's almost like teaching an honors class."

Beeman said that by teaching summer school, "I can figure out what the university wants" and felt that "it's important for full-time professors to take summer school and night classes" in order to be exposed to a different group of students and learning styles.



### Final Exam Schedule

Final examinations of 110 minutes are scheduled for all courses. Final examination days are included in the 175 instructional days required by law. Final examinations are to be held in the regularly scheduled classrooms on the dates and times listed below in order to comply with college policy.

For classes meeting MW, MW, MTWR, MTWRE, M, W, or F  
IF YOUR CLASS BEGINS BETWEEN YOUR FINAL IS ON:  
7 am and 7:40 a.m. .... Mon., May 12 from 8-9:50 am  
7:50 am and 9:10am ..... Wed., May 14 from 8-9:50 am  
9:20 am and 10:20 a.m. .... Mon., May 12 from 10-11:50 am  
10:30 am and 11:30am ..... Wed., May 14 from 10-11:50 am  
11:40 am and 12:10am ..... Mon., May 12 from noon-1:50 pm  
12:50 pm and 1:50 pm ..... Wed., May 14 from noon-1:50 pm  
2 pm and 3 pm ..... Mon., May 12 from 2-3:50 pm  
3:10 pm and 3:50 pm ..... Wed., May 14 from 2-3:50 pm  
4 pm and 4:50 pm ..... Mon., May 12 from 4-5:50 pm  
5 pm and 6 pm ..... Mon., May 12 from 6-7:50 pm  
Only on Mon. between  
5:30 pm and 6:20 pm ..... Mon., May 12 from 6-7:50 pm  
Only on Wed. between  
5:30 pm and 6:20 pm ..... Wed., May 14 from 6-7:50 pm  
6:35pm and 7:45 pm ..... Wed., May 14 from 6:30-8:20 pm

For classes meeting TR, T, or R;  
IF YOUR CLASS BEGINS BETWEEN YOUR FINAL IS ON:  
7 am and 7:40 am ..... Tues., May 13 from 8 to 9:50 am  
7:50am and 9:10 am ..... Thurs., May 15 from 8-9:50 am  
9:20 am and 10:20 am ..... Tues., May 13 from 10-11:50am  
10:30 am and 11:30 am ..... Thurs., May 15 from 10-11:50am  
11:40 am and 12:10 pm ..... Tues., May 13 from noon-1:50 pm  
12:50 pm and 1:50 pm Thurs., May 15 from noon-1:50 pm  
2 pm and 3 pm ..... Tues., May 13 from 2-3:50 pm  
3:10 pm and 4:50 pm ..... Thurs., May 15 from 2-3:50 pm  
5 pm and 6:20 pm ..... Tues., May 13 from 6-7:50 pm  
Only on Tues. between  
5:30 pm and 6:20 pm ..... Tues., May 13 from 6-7:50 pm  
Only on Thurs. between  
5:30 pm and 6:20 pm ..... Thurs., May 15 from 6-7:50 pm  
6:35 pm and 7:45 pm ..... Thurs., May 15 from 6:30-8:20 pm

\* Friday, May 16 from 8-9:50 or 10-11:15 will be reserved for one day per week classes that conflict with the above schedule.

\*\* Saturday classes will have finals on Saturday May 10.

## Students vexed on attending summer school courses

By CRYSTAL ROBERTS & AMBER TROUPE  
Rip staff writers

School is nearly out, and summer is getting closer. Many students may relax and enjoy their time off from school, but others may take advantage of the extra time and continue their education by enrolling in summer school.

Bakersfield College student Alberto Flores said that he will be taking an ESL class this summer. "I'm trying to get it out of the way so I can take English B1," Flores said that he thinks most other people take summer school so they can finish school faster and get certain prerequisites completed. He also commented that going to school is a nice way to do something useful with the extra time you have.

Student Cynthia Upton will attend summer school because she needs to take a math class so she can graduate next semester. Upton stated that she had never attended summer school until this year.

"I haven't even registered. I didn't know if I'd enroll because I have so much going on right now," said Upton.

Student Remy Carpino, shared some similar views.

Carpino is attending summer school because he needs a certain amount of units, and he is behind and trying to catch up. He has never attended summer school either and thought that the registration process was easy.

"All I had to do was log onto the Bandweb, register for and pay for classes," said Carpino.

The bad part Carpino said is getting up

early and having less vacation time.

The more positive point is that he won't be overloaded the next two semesters.

The advice that Carpino had to offer other students is that "if they are willing to give up a part of their summer, in the long run, it pays off. It helps make the next semesters not so hard."

Upton also said that one of the reasons she didn't want to attend summer school is because she didn't like driving back and forth in the California heat.

"My mind is going to be on break mode," said Upton. "I don't like math enough to sit through the summertime heat." However, she's going to put up with it.

Against all the negative aspects, Upton said that the one good thing about summer school is the chance it allows for one to graduate earlier.

She also stated that it will minimize the amount of math classes she will have to take the rest of the semesters.

Nevertheless, it seems that many BC students are preoccupied with working instead of attending school. Students feel that they need to work in order to afford going to school and other basic things, so taking a summer school course would get in the way of the extra hours they would be able to work.

BC student Maria Marroquin said that she would also like to attend summer school and take a math course but is not certain if she will enroll. "I probably won't because I want to work so that I can save up money to move into my own place."

Marroquin also said that going to summer school is a good experience because you have something to do during the sum-

# NEWS

## Harvey Hall promotes hope



Bakersfield Mayor Harvey Hall speaks at the Marketplace fountain during the CASA Light of Hope presentation on April 24.

JOHN ORNELAS / THE RIP

## DOCTOR: Farber offered to work free of charge but was prevented from doing so by district policy

Continued from Page 1

be formed in late August or early September to address this issue and the possibility of securing a mental health counselor at some point, she said.

During this fiscal year, the health center saw an increase in student visits. More students equaled more hours expended, and Farber also used up many of his allowed hours by conducting the physicals needed for the PHIT program, as well as for the emergency medical technician, certified nursing and radiology programs.

The paperwork that needed to be done was also time consuming and more extensive than usual, Farber said.

"The funds were not increased. Everyone should have foreseen this issue coming. Myself included," Farber said. "However, it shouldn't take

that much money to finish out the year," he said. "I don't understand."

Farber does not work anywhere else at present due to an injury suffered years ago, and he cannot work more than 20 hours a week. Despite his limitations, however, he still offered his services free of charge for May and June, but his offer was rejected due to district policy, he said.

If negotiations with administration go well, then he might secure a few more hours of service in May.

Farber's contract was meant to last from July 2007 to June 2008. However, due to the much higher than normal number of students needing his services during the months of September and October in 2007, Farber hit his official limit in hours.

During September 2007, the health center addressed the problems of 973 students and in October 2007, the center saw 806. A total of 5,794 stu-

dents from July 2007 to April 2008 came to the center and out of that number, 1,567 students got to see the doctor, according to Guadalupe-Mendez.

Farber, who has rendered his services to BC for nine years, expressed concern for the chronic cases he addresses.

"We're responsible for the students. There could be a liability issue. They were told that they would get medications in May," Farber said.

"This is really bad for people who can't take the pressure of exams," said Catrina Aguilar, 19, BC child development major.

Lucy Cruz, 19, undeclared, agreed. "This is horrible for kids taking pills for stress," Cruz said.

"This makes things complicated," said Britney McAlister, 19, nursing. "Students won't be getting what they need."

## ELECTIONS: While paper ballots are more time-consuming, they are more secure from tampering

Continued from Page 1

order to vote.

"Paper ballots are more work, and it will take longer to count and process; however, it will be more secure," Lopez said.

"Unfortunately, it is a major inconvenience to night students because voting ends at 5 p.m."

Voting ended May 6, and ballots will be counted to announce the presidency May 7.

Each candidate is allowed to have a representative present while the counting of votes is in process, however, the candidate themselves are excluded from the process.

"It will be up to the SGA elections chair and the committee that's put together who will decide how elections are run next year," said Jenkins.

Despite the problems with the elections, more students turned out to vote than in previous years, which was a goal of SGA. Three hundred more votes were cast this year as compared to last year.

Lopez's last day in office is May 31, which will also mark the swearing in of new officers and the gavel handed over to the new SGA president, Karl Estill, newly elected vice

### 2008 SGA ELECTION RESULTS

<b>President</b> James Hancock - 33.48% (295 votes) Lune Murgema - 33.48% (295 votes) Matthew Cuelier - 31.67% (279 votes) Independent - 1.36% (12 votes)	<b>Vice President</b> Karl Estill - 40.30% (355 votes) Loy Salarda - 34.96% (308 votes) Daniel Dye - 21.68% (191 votes) Independent - 3.06% (27 votes)	<b>Legislative Liaison</b> Belen Ortiz - 66.63% (587 votes) Justin Saliers - 31.10% (343 votes) Independent - 2.27 (20 votes)	<b>Secretary</b> Hilda Nieblas - 36.32% (320 votes) Ruth Ann Russ - 34.73% (306 votes) Kevin Arambula - 26.90% (237 votes) Independent - 2.04% (18 votes)	<b>General Counsel</b> Jacob Castilleja - 43.93% (387 votes) Greg Snyder - 34.62% (305 votes) Sam Towery - 19.75% (174 votes) Independent - 1.70% (15 votes)	<b>Representative</b> Markus Navarrete - 93.64% (825 votes)
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president, is the only person to previously hold a senior office position in SGA.

## PRESIDENT: Andrews will meet with Chamberlain several times before he retires on July 1

Continued from Page 1

proval in June.

"It is a truly collaborative document presenting the vision and plans of the faculty and staff at BC through to the year 2012," said Andrews.

"Incoming president Chamberlain will have the opportunity to lead the college in the implementation of the plan's strategic initiatives."

According to Gomez-Heitzberg, Chamberlain really knows the learning process, and due to his education in instructional technology and his involvement with Leadership Bakersfield, he will benefit with the college's positive interaction with business leaders and educational leaders will greatly benefit the leaders," she said.

"I'm looking forward to his return to campus. He has a clear understanding of our students and the needs of our faculty. He has a bigger view of what the Bakersfield College community needs, and his qualifications are a perfect fit at this time."

Andrews will be meeting periodically to familiarize Chamberlain with specifics until July 1 when Andrews will officially retire and leave the presidency to Chamberlain.

Chamberlain agrees but is subtle about his familiarity with the change that may have occurred on the college campus.

"Although it's not like I'm coming from outside of the district like the other candidates, things have changed since I've left," said Chamberlain. "I'd like to establish communication, and I'd like to be very visible on campus. I will be doing a lot of work with the 2012 plan and take a look at places that need work."

To assist in his transition back to campus, Andrews will be meeting periodically to familiarize Chamberlain with specifics until July 1 when Andrews will officially retire and leave the presidency to Chamberlain.

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www.therip.com/register

### CALENDAR

<b>May 7</b> Health and Wellness Fair, BC's Free Speech Lawn area, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.	Celtic Woman, Rabobank Theater, 7:30 p.m.	Standing Bear Powwow, Bakersfield College, 10 a.m.
<b>May 8</b> Open registration begins Annual Pops Concert, BC's Outdoor Theater, 6:30 p.m.	Chuck Wicks, The Crystal Palace, 6:30 p.m.	<b>June 7</b> Kid's Fishing Derby, Woffard Heights Park, Woffard Heights, 7 a.m.
<b>May 9-11</b> 10 <sup>th</sup> Annual Craft Show, 8400 Rosedale Hwy., 9 a.m.	<b>May 16-18</b> History Days at the Kern River Museum, 49 Big Blue Road, Kernville, 9 a.m.	<b>June 8</b> Trout's 2 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Bakersfield County Music Award, 805 N. Chester Ave., 1:30 p.m.
<b>May 9</b> BC baseball at Cerritos for Regional playoffs	<b>May 16 and 17</b> Spring Parade of Homes Tour, 15014 Thunder Valley Drive, 10 a.m.	<b>June 14 and 15</b> Bakersfield Thunder Run, Kern County Fairgrounds, 9 a.m.
<b>May 9</b> 22 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Bakersfield Jazz Festival, Cal State Bakersfield's Amphitheater, 7 p.m.	<b>May 16</b> End of Spring semester	<b>June 14</b> Wine Fest 2008, Kern County Museum, 7 p.m.
<b>May 10-16</b> Final examinations week	<b>May 17 and 18</b> Old Time Peddler's Faire, Kern County Museum, 9 a.m.	<b>June 15</b> Father's Day
<b>May 10</b> BC's track and field, So Cal Finals, Bakersfield College, 9 a.m.	<b>May 17</b> Professional Drag Boat Racing, Lake Ming, 8:30 a.m.	<b>June 21</b> First day of Summer
<b>May 11</b> Mother's Day	<b>May 22</b> Tracy Lawrence, The Crystal Palace, 7 p.m.	<b>June 28</b> Gun Show and Sale, Kern County Fairgrounds, 9 a.m.
<b>May 12 and 13</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Consumer Art Show, 5121 Stockdale Hwy., 2 p.m.	<b>May 26</b> Memorial Day	<b>July 4</b> Independence Day
<b>May 14</b>	<b>May 31 and June 1</b> Bakersfield Home and Leisure Show, Kern County Fairgrounds, 10 a.m.	<b>July 17</b> Bill Pickett Invitational Rodeo, Kern County Fairgrounds, 7 p.m.
	<b>June 1</b> Latin Food Festival and Menudo Cook-Off, Stranler Park, 11 a.m.	<b>August 25</b> Instruction begins for Fall semester

# OPINION

## Does space constrain love?

### STAFF EDITORIAL 'Incentives' are just voter bribes

While Indians overseas in the United Kingdom fight for their right to vote and the right to participate in that democracy, American college students have taken for granted this right and what women and African Americans before us have fought for.

It has come to the point that the student government of Bakersfield College has felt it necessary to provide what they call "student incentives" to encourage students to take three minutes to sit down to participate in one of our basic rights: voting.

It is a distressing idea that our student representatives find it necessary to give adults "incentives" such as gift cards and iPods in this educational setting. Citizens of this country do not receive gifts for voting on any official state or county ballot.

In fact, it is unjustifiable and immoral not only for candidates to receive "incentives" but for the general public to get anything out of an election besides choice of an ideal and official.

When these kinds of rewards are offered to a college student body, it should be understood that votes that may have been influenced could be discarded by the voters who decide to vote to win iPods.

It is understandable that students on this campus are busy as they juggle family, education and careers, but students should be able to read and familiarize themselves with functions that affect their educational experience.

It seems as though students are constantly ready to complain about student activities and resources available, but when they get the chance to actually take part in making a difference, they are apathetic. At a time when young voters are increasingly more useful in the American presidential race, a majority of BC students are still stuck in a very ignorant spot on student government representation.

The student government exists because of the student representation fee paid upon registration each semester, which means nearly \$16,000 a semester, goes to funding our representatives. It's a miniature democracy within the campus where representation fees can be considered taxes, and SGA cards can be considered extra funding for our endorsements. The lack of interest in school government can be considered a direct reflection of our national government. Across the United States, people are crying for change in politics while students at BC cry for gift cards.

The student government should find another way to spend \$2,000 worth of incentives; perhaps it could be done by spending money on educating BC students on clubs, activities, functions or politics.

It's agreed that many people enjoyed Spring Fling, and it received a positive response; it was one of the best in years. Perhaps all the SGA has to do is provide live entertainment and give the student body free food. As Americans, that's what we reflect to be true: Entertain me, and feed me, and we'll shut up. Give me a reason to vote, and I will vote.

Observe the smiles the BC student government has made in the 2007-2008 academic year, and it can be said that they've made an extensive effort to unite and inform the student body.

If students are still unclear on what the SGA is and what it does or could do for them, they are obviously truly uninterested in what the college could do for them. The idea for "incentives" is unfortunate and it's what it takes to get students to show support, then the light for politics in the future will just continue to get dimmer.

Modern technology allows couples to keep in contact with one another over long distances, and both need to trust one another.

By **CRYSTAL ROBERTS**  
croberts@bakersfieldcollege.edu  
Rip staff writer

Despite what staff say, long-distance relationships can work. With all the technology that's available with webcams, e-mails and cell phones, you can see and hear someone even "seeing" him or her.

I think that you have to definitely take into account the distance between the two people. For example, say someone lives in California, and the significant other lives in Minnesota. This may be harder to deal with than for two dating persons in Bakersfield and in Los Angeles.

Nevertheless, not being with someone is still not being with someone. Let's say the situation is the guy who plays a sport and decides to go to a different college because there is a better opportunity for him at this particular school that happened to be very far away from California. So, the two individuals decide to stay together and try to make the relationship work.

That's the scenario; this relationship could totally work, couldn't it?

The answer is yes.  
Oh, it's going to be hard work, really hard work, more work than a regular relationship requires. The two individuals will not see each other for a long time, and there has to be a certain set of rules laid out. How many times will the two talk if there's a certain time of day the two will talk? Is the relationship open? Can the two see other people? How serious are the two together? There has to be a certain level of trust that surpasses a regular relationship.

In a long-distance relationship, you can't just drive over to the person's apartment or house and see if they are being faithful or not; you just have to trust them. Long-distance relationships take a certain amount of discipline that a regular relationship doesn't necessarily have to deal with.

Both people have to want it and want it bad. The relationship, I mean. If one person is giving his or her all and the other person is not, then the relationship will not last. The two people have to put in 100 percent effort.

Also, the two have to make arrangements to see each other physically at some point in their relationship. There is a difference if the two are only a few hours away vs. a few days away, so that also has to be taken into consideration. Maybe they could both plan an activities calendar of some sort.

I do have to admit that the long-distance relationship may last longer if the two people have been together for a certain period of time, while a newer relationship may fizzle

simply because the people haven't gotten to know each other well enough on a non-physical level.

Having a long-distance relationship also helps to keep the fire and excitement alive that can easily be lost in a regular relationship. Every time you see the person, it's new, exciting and fresh. You never get bored of the person, and there's always a thrill when you see him or her. It's like the first time all over again.

Basically, it comes down to work and discipline, which is good for any regular relationship anyway. When the two people finally come back together, they'll be able to understand and know things about the person that they may not have found out if they weren't in a long-distance relationship.

So, I think a long-distance relationship can definitely work if the two people want the relationship badly enough, and the two people are totally and completely serious.

Long-distance relationships allow no time for lovers to bond face-to-face, and space increases the chance of temptation.

By **NICHOLAS SPARLING**  
nsparling@bakersfieldcollege.edu  
Rip staff writer

Long-distance relationships have to be structured around trust, communication and loyalty. Trust is a nice ideal, but let's face it, it's not necessarily in our nature to trust unconditionally, especially when it's someone you care about.

Communication is difficult to sustain. In a normal relationship, you can bring your mate along with you in your daily life, and you can bond and spend time together as you complete your daily business. So, if your day

wasn't already busy enough, you have to set special time aside to call or write your significant other. If you don't have time, then you have to make time. If you don't, then your relationship will begin to resemble its physical state and begin to drift apart.

Loyalty is linked with trust and communication. If in the relationship communication begins to fall away, then it gets harder and harder to trust the other. Most people these days get into a relationship just to have a steady sex partner. When this is the case, then it only takes one member to have no real thought of a future for the relationship, and it begins to crumble.

They say that nothing can come between true love, but true love can be taken and forced far apart. The intention of the relationship makes all of the difference: How dedicated are the two loves to each other, and, probably most importantly, what are the ethics of those involved in the relationship?

Another key element in a long-term relationship is honesty; honesty is in the same vein as trust and loyalty. When there is no honesty, there is no hope for trust or loyalty. The greatest fear people have in long-distance relationships is that the mate might cheat. Once your mate cheats, there is no longer honesty in the relationship, and it is doomed to head for failure.

If someone in the relationship cheats, then the first instinct of the individual is to try to justify his or her actions by shifting the blame. The individual searches for faults in the other to make his or her wrongdoing seem less significant. This leads to bickering, and bickering leads to fighting, and the fighting leads ultimately to the destruction of the relationship.

When both parties of the relationship are not wholeheartedly committed to one another, then they will both tend to wander from each other. It only takes one person to slipping up to change the conduct unconsciously in the communication of the relationship.

I'm sure that everyone has heard some story of a failed long-distance relationship. An example of this would be high school sweethearts being accepted to different colleges and being separated through no faults of their own. In moving to a different environment, you meet people who have different priorities and morals, which are factors in causing change in a person.

When surrounded by new people, there will be significant change. Even when you are reunited with the one you love, that person will most likely be changed and not be the same person.

Distance makes relationships hard for two major reasons: When far away from someone, it's easier for that person to lie or cheat, and, also, distance makes it harder to have good personal conversations or to show your love and affection. These factors would weaken any relationship. It's unhealthy. So, why be subject to a long-distance relationship?



ALLY ARMSTRONG / THE RIP

## MTV reality show puts journalism in juvenile light

By **BIANCA HERNANDEZ**  
bhernan@bakersfieldcollege.edu  
Rip staff writer

Just when I thought I couldn't hate MTV any more, it comes out with a new show called "The Paper."

The show follows a high school newspaper in Florida and focuses on the drama of producing a paper.

The tension shown on the show is mostly social and has nothing to do with the actual production of the paper.

In fact, the way everyone gangs up against one girl is just a typical high school thing. As

annoying as the girl appeared on the show, and who knows how much of that is due to the editing, she appeared to be the only one who was capable of stepping up and handling the leadership position.

In fact, from what I've seen, she's the only one who does journalism-related things when she's in journalism class.

Another MTV "reality" show, "The Hills," is notorious for being staged. I feel that a lot of what's going on in this new show is staged, or at least prompted.

During one sad scene, a member of the staff is talking about how he doesn't like who was picked for the job of editor in chief.

Conveniently, the girl whom he is talking about is sitting a few feet behind him the whole time he is talking.

I feel that the presence of the camera probably creates more drama than is typical in a high school journalism class.

I will admit that in my experience, journalism isn't always a cheerful place, but any discord is usually always related to the paper and not to social issues.

The first episode doesn't even show any of the current editor-in-chief's leadership.

Besides, the few seconds of a computer it showed, the audience really doesn't get to see what the students are doing.

This show makes high school journalists appear petty and self-absorbed. The only realistic aspect of this show is that it shows how tense high school is and how easily teenagers can turn against each other.

This show only serves to exploit the angst of high school in a new setting.

I fear that people will see this show and make false conclusions about journalists and the environment they work in.

MTV isn't fooling me by trying to act like journalism is the cause of all of the drama.

That's just ridiculous.

They could have followed any high school team or club and seen the same results.

# CAMPUS

## Employers take hold of BC's student potential

By **JOEL R. PARAMO**  
jparamo@bakersfieldcollege.edu  
Editor in chief

College students may find it difficult to look for a job while attending classes, but to make this task easier, more than 100 employers from all over Kern County gathered at Bakersfield College April 23 for the annual Job Fair.

"It's a great opportunity for students," said freshman Stephanie Blanco. "It helps everyone."

According to Margie Ellis, manager at the Target on the corner of Ming Avenue and Wible Road, nearly 80 percent of her employees are currently college students.

"We receive a lot of applicants from BC," said Rosedale Target manager Christine Hadwer. "A lot of students work for us. We're very flexible with student schedules."

Local Wal-Mart stores, while recruiting and taking applications, decided to promote environmentally friendly items from all-natural cleaning products to fluorescent light bulbs.

Rosedale Wal-Mart store manager Jack Perceles said that as the world's largest corporation, it's important for Wal-Mart to promote global sustainability in the community and within their own stores.

"A lot of the BC guys do morning classes, so we are flexible with shifts. We usually don't get busy until later in the afternoons," said Per-

"It really helps you to find a career. I think it's a good opportunity to look into job possibilities."

—Tiffany Canez,  
BC student



Emilio Hernandez gets information from Buddy Downs of Community Education Center during Career Day.

## BC club raises money for trip



The Architecture Club raised money May 3 with a yard sale located in Bakersfield College's parking lot at Mt. Vernon and University avenues. The money raised will be put toward a field trip to San Francisco to visit two museums and the Golden Gate Bridge on May 23 and 24. There are 22 people going, and a total of \$1,200 dollars is needed.

"We have at least \$300 dollars to go," said club president Joel Zepeda. They are also planning on a car wash to take place the weekend before finals.

Photos by Cara Jackson / The Rip

## Wireless Internet available and spreading on campus

By **NICHOLAS SPARLING**  
nsparling@bakersfieldcollege.edu  
Rip staff writer

The school's first release of wireless Internet was on the second month of this semester in the library and as of the beginning of March, Wi-Fi has been fully up, running and available in the cafeteria.

Each access point can reach up to 150 feet before connectivity starts to drop off.

Right now, Jim McGee of Information Services has funding for 30 additional access points. McGee has spoken with the Student Government Association about where the most fruitful places to set up the access points would be over a month ago and has yet to get any feedback.

McGee has to have the access points put up by the first of June and is awaiting suggestions on the best places for them.

"Jim McGee was trying to get Wi-Fi working on campus since the dawn of wireless Internet," according to Karl Estill, SGA secretary.

The first month was all testing. "We are using the same wireless that is used on the CSUB campus. They were our guinea pigs," said Estill.

"We want the placement to serve the students and also be the most profitable for them," said McGee.

Currently, SGA has access points in the Executive Board Room, the Collins Conference Center, the Fire-station Room and a few in the Campus Center. SGA currently has funding to set up five more access points linked to the controller for maximum coverage.

The first major problem McGee had to deal with in supplying the campus with wireless Internet was an issue of security. He needed to allow the students to access the Internet and not the school's network.

The second problem was cost.

The school has a controller that cost roughly \$10,000 and can support up to 48 access points. The cost for each access point is \$400, plus an additional fee to run the cable from the access point to the controller; the cost of the cable can range on the distance.

The access points have a life of 6-8 years before having to be replaced. The goal is for each department to have Wi-Fi, and both McGee and the Student Government would like to see fundraisers to help alleviate the cost. Even with the funds for the 30 additional access points, it won't be enough to provide wireless to the whole campus.

"We're trying to put the access points high and out of the way so people can't spill Coke on them, unplug them or just walk away with them," said McGee.

## BC attracts international student

By **CRYSTAL ROBERTS**  
croberts@bakersfieldcollege.edu  
Rip Staff writer

While many students come far to attend Bakersfield College, no one comes farther than the international students who come to BC.

International students travel out of their countries for various reasons, but the most common explanation is to get a better education than what is offered to them. The process is thought to be long and grueling, but BC international student from Chad, Achoyak Souleymane, said that the application process is not that bad.

"You first have to find a school online and then apply," said Souleymane who was given the CSUB Web site address by a friend. She then explained that the school sends you an I-20 form that informs the applicant

"I went to the CSUB Web site, and I actually thought I was going to a school in Los Angeles. I thought Bakersfield was just the name of the school in L.A."

—Achoyak Souleymane,  
BC student

that he or she was accepted. The applicant then has to have financial support and a valid passport. After going to the embassy, he or she receives a visa and then he or she is able to come to the United States.

"This is the process that Souleymane went through before she was able to attend a college in America."

She also explained that she first came to America to learn English and get more experience at Cal State-

Bakersfield. "I went to the CSUB Web site, and I actually thought I was going to a school in Los Angeles. I thought Bakersfield was just the name of the school in L.A."

Souleymane studied at CSUB for about nine months. "It's not hard to learn English; it's more the pronunciation. It's way different," said Souleymane who is also fluent in French. After completing her courses and learning English, she decided she wanted to stay and further her education in America.

Souleymane said that she chose to study at BC instead of CSUB because the semester system was more familiar with her than the quarter system at CSUB.

"Most people in my country are on a French system," she said. "An university goes a whole year, and BC is more similar because it's just two semesters. It's also cheaper."

Although Souleymane is only beginning her education at BC, she has already earned a bachelor's degree in journalism.

She explained that in her country, she worked for a news station and appeared on television as a broadcaster. Souleymane said that she did not pursue journalism as a career in her country because it didn't pay very well. "My dad wanted me to go somewhere and learn somewhere else. It's all about what I can learn here and use in my country later."

Souleymane has since changed her major to business with no intention of using her broadcasting skills in a career. "My English needs to be more strong and articulate."

Souleymane said that she has not been back to visit since she left about two years ago, but her family comes to visit her here in the United States. "It's very expensive, and there's war going on in my country right now," she said. "I'm planning on going back, but not any time soon."

### 'GADE FEEDBACK

**Sandra Osorio, criminal justice:** "Summer school and possibly the beach."

**Dolores Jara, nursing:** "I'm thinking about summer school but working full time."

**Kathleen Hanson, philosophy:** "I'm actually planning my wedding, traveling, and work."

**Juanita Andrade, psychology:** "I'm going to Mexico."

**Johnny Villalobos, criminal justice:** "Just work, work all out."

**Paul Lopez, business marketing:** "Summer school and work."

**What are your plans for this summer?**

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**How to reach us**

Address: Bakersfield College, 1807 Pandora Drive, Bakersfield, CA 93305  
Newsroom: Campus Center  
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# REVIEWS

## Cruz's Cuban play at BC

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

Nilo Cruz's "Two Sisters and a Piano" defies Greek drama.

Much like the characters in the play "Waiting for Godot," the sisters in the Cruz play wait for the deus ex machina or the "god out of a machine" to come and rescue them from their predicament, but it never happens. The question remains: Will either the father of the two sisters or the husband of one ever come and get them out of communist-run Cuba?

### PLAY REVIEW

★★★★☆

The two women find that all men appear to be their enemies and that they can trust only each other. The two sisters are under house arrest in Cuba because of their subversive activities and particularly because of the subversive writings of Maria Celia (Cheyenne Autumn Hernandez). Their mail is confiscated and examined by the government officials, and the intrusive government officials also take inventory of their property.

To add to their misery, the domineering Lieutenant Portuondo (Dashawn Anton Robert Clark) hounds Maria. The personification of sexism and hypocrisy, Portuondo will not even allow Maria to touch her husband's letters, and although he is a communist who supposedly doesn't believe in private ownership, he treats the two women as though he owns them.

In fact, a strong point about the play is that through Portuondo's character, one can see the hypocrisy of communism: For all of its class-free and pro-feminism tenets, applied communism usually amounts to rule by dictator or bureaucracy. It's tragic that a beautiful philosophy like communism cannot be applied to reality because of the nature of humanity.

The downside to the play raises immigration issues unless one can choose to ignore them, and the play is a little too melodramatic in its message that the two sisters can only be saved through escaping their own country and going to another country.

Unfortunately, the play stresses the point too hard that the viewer is supposed to feel sorry for these artistic, suffering sisters. The viewer naturally thinks this: Why can't countries like Mexico and Cuba work out their own problems in-

stead of expecting countries like the U.S. to clog up its systems with infinite herds of desperate people?

Nevertheless, it's possible for the viewer to just enjoy the story of the play and the Bakersfield College production of the Cruz play, directed by Kimberly Chin, opens vividly enough with the two sisters being brutalized by the militia police (Edward Nathan Smith, Yazid Alawgarey, Richie Perez and Linda Castro, in addition to Dashawn Anton Robert Clark).

The actors played the nasty, sneering militia police with such ruthless perfection. I sat aghast in my seat.

Hernandez and Laura Lopez, who played Maria's piano prodigy sister Sofia, appeared helpless and wildly terrified. Sofia's terror seems imbued into her touching piano rendition of Pachelbel's "Canon," which comes at the behest of the sisters' mocking captors; Lopez somehow melded Sofia's terror into the music.

However, the play is not all about terror; there are wistful moments when the incarcerated sisters reminisce about their deceased mother who "worked prayers into the soles of shoes" and their summers spent near the ocean.

There are humorous moments when the sisters speak about the deplorable conditions of Cuba. Sofia comments about the absence of certain products in Cuban stores



LISA VARGAS / THE RIP

Sofia (Laura Lopez) is held back by one of the characters in BC's production of "Two Sisters and a Piano" on May 1.

noting that one often uses "Milk of Magnesia for deodorant and beet juice for lipstick." Furthermore, an incident involving a visiting piano tuner caught by Sofia with his pants down in front of Maria because Maria suspects that he has hidden a government wire in his underpants proved to be hilarious.

Hernandez and Lopez convey the humor, desperation and longings of the two straggling, man-hungry, government-distrusting sisters.

Clark as the anal retentive lieutenant pursuing Maria conveys Lieutenant Portuondo's unreasonable manly calm and conviction that he is in the moral right by being the jailer and owner of the two women.



LISA VARGAS / THE RIP

Sofia engages in conversation with Lt. Portuondo (Dashawn Anton Robert Clark) in "Two Sisters and a Piano."



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## Parody album has hilarious talent

By **BIANCA HERNANDEZ**  
bihernanta@bakersfield.edu  
Rip staff writer

No genre of music is safe from Flight of the Conchords.

In their newest album, Bret McKenzie and Jemaine Clement successfully manage to parody pop, folk and rap with great beats and hilarious lyrics.

### ALBUM REVIEW

★★★★★

On the first listen, the songs seem familiar as if they've somehow managed to take some of the greatest hits from each genre and just make one song that encompasses all of the individual genres. Upon further listening, it is clear that the lyrics set them apart from the songs they're making fun of.

"Think About It" is reminiscent of a typical U2 "let's heal the world" type of song; only instead of feeling sad about the state of the world, I feel like laughing until I cry. Clement even resorts to mumbling some of the lyrics, which is brilliant because I usually forget the clichéd lyrics of songs like that.

The rap song "Hippopotomus vs. Rhymenoceros" makes a statement about modern rappers. At one point, McKenzie says he raps about reality "like me and my grandma drinking a cup of tea," which is a hilarious contrast to the rappers who claim to rap about guns, drugs and violence because it's reality.

Their use of few instruments forces listeners to focus on the lyrics, which isn't a bad thing because the lyrics don't exactly overpower the rhythms of the song but are the best part of the songs.

My favorite song, "Robots," is just a geeky song about robots killing humans and taking over the world. At one point, McKenzie has a "binary solo," which, for those not in the know, is just numbers that computers use to represent letters. The lines "We used poi-

sonous gasses, and we poisoned their asses" have successfully wedged themselves into my mind, and I frequently find myself singing them.

As bizarre as the song may sound, it's actually really enjoyable because they match the techno beats with speaking in monotones. The Conchords will probably never become a huge commercial success because witty music just isn't in demand, which is a shame.

It's as if they took conversations and made them into songs, but the songs are good.

The music may come off as serious, but these guys don't take themselves seriously, and it appears like they don't want listeners to take certain genres seriously either. It's almost impossible not to laugh out loud with lines like "There's people on the street getting diseases from monkeys."

Unlike other comedic artists like Weird Al Yankovic, the songs aren't tiring because they aren't parodying a specific song. Instead, they parody entire genres.

Even out of the context of the show, the songs are still entertaining. "Leggy Blonde," which is sung by the Conchords' manager in the show to his lost love, includes some sound effects made entirely by office supplies. The serious and sad situation of the song is briefly punctured by Clement rapping about his underwear.

"Boom" is comparable to songs like "My Humps" in that it uses constant repetition of one word in a suggestive way. Still, it manages to make a statement about the sexism that runs rampant in popular music. At the beginning of the song, Bret attempts to rationalize his sexism by saying, "She's so hot she's making me sexist."

The only downside to this album is that all the songs have appeared on their show, so there is no new music. This minor flaw doesn't take away from the overall awesomeness that is Flight of the Conchords. They've managed to mix great rhythms with witty verse in a way that is entertaining because it's both funny and good.

## Fast service served at Molly J's Cafe

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

Molly J's Café can also be called Molly J's Restaurant. This surprisingly humble restaurant provides

### RESTAURANT REVIEW

★★★★★

fast service within its small area. When I first walked in, I expected to wait to be seated. But instead, the waitress quickly got my partner and me seats with the menus.

The menu consisted of a variety of food. It was a lot of food for a small restaurant. The prices were fair and ranged from an okra appetizer for \$4.79 to a T-bone steak for \$18.99.

One thing that bothered me was the serving of breakfast and dinner because they had a time limit for when they could serve it.

But either way, I came up with my decision and decided to get a \$10.99 chicken breast dinner, which was chicken strips. I also included a que-

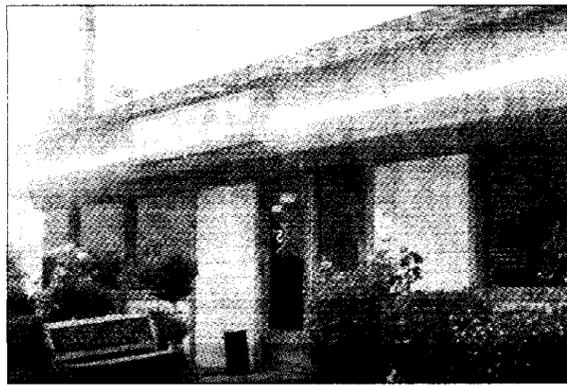
sadilla appetizer because I thought I would still be hungry afterward.

The waitress kindly took my order, but I was overwhelmed with the options offered for the side orders. I honestly don't remember all the options, but I got what I remembered I could get and ordered. On the side orders, I got some chicken noodle soup, chili and crackers, garlic toast and French fries.

As I waited for my order, I got a chance to look around at the pictures and art in the room. There was a huge painting, which impressed me because it was actually painted on the wall. I felt a warm feeling in this place, which caused me to be happy and smile at my partner.

The food did not take long to arrive, so I got my chicken noodle soup first. I've never had chicken noodle soup before, but it was fantastic. Next came the quesadilla appetizer. This was a huge \$5.99 appetizer, and I tried to eat all of it, but it had too much cheese.

The rest of my food was served at the same time, and to be honest, I knew I needed a doggy bag, so I could finish it. The chicken strip din-



GABINO VEGA ROSARIO / THE RIP

Molly J's Cafe on 3150 Panama Lane serves breakfast, lunch and dinner.

ner came along with some dipping sauce, fries and chili. Everything was hot and fresh, so I had to fight the temptation of not burning myself.

I enjoyed the food very much: The strips were hot and tender, the chili was OK, the fries needed more salt, but I honestly enjoyed everything.

While I was taking a break from all this food, I was talking to my partner about the service and all of a sudden one of the waitresses came by our table and refilled my Pepsi.

There was nothing wrong with her refilling my drink, but she was not holding a pitcher to refill but another cup of Pepsi.

## Comic book movie carried by Downey Jr.

By **ELIZABETH MEEKS**  
emeeks@bakersfieldcollege.edu  
Rip staff writer

Due to the vision of director Jon Favreau and lead actor Robert Downey, Jr., the latest comic book character to come alive on the big screen, "Iron Man," is the greatest ever.

### MOVIE REVIEW

★★★★☆

Right from the beginning, "Iron Man" grabs your attention with suspense and comic relief as the film moves

seamlessly from one scene to the next.

Downey, who plays Tony Stark/Iron Man, is brilliant with his delivery and portrayal of a wealthy industrialist and playboy who must build an armored suit in order to escape being captured by terrorists. Realizing that his company's weapons are falling into the wrong hands, Downey uses his new technology to fight against evil.

The many comic-book characters that have been made into movies are

entertaining, yet due to the overuse of computer graphics, the scenes are unbelievable. "Iron Man," on the other hand, which uses computer graphics, is able to keep the audience completely wrapped in a state of believability.

Gwyneth Paltrow adds to the film's flavor with her portrayal of Virginia "Pepper" Potts, Stark's loyal assistant, and Jeff Bridges plays Obadiah Stane/Iron Monger, who is Stark's long-time business associate who helps bring a twist to the film.

However, even with the all-star cast, Downey's the one who carries the film into the Hall of Fame of comic-book movies. From his delivery of a wealthy ladies' man, to tortured captive and finally superhero, he makes "Iron Man" a fun action-packed movie for the whole family.

The language is appropriate for children, and even though there is violence throughout the film, it is not filled with blood and guts. My 7-year-old daughter thought it was fantastic and wants to see it again.

I not only recommend spending the money to see it, but I cannot wait for the sequel.

### BC BRAINS

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

#### Why is Cinco de Mayo celebrated?



**Elizabeth Rubio, nursing:** "You know, I have no idea. Maybe it's another reason to party."



**Nancy Osorio, business administration:** "Isn't that the Mexican independence?"



**Steven Sampson, engineering:** "It's celebrated because of the Mexican-American war."



**Joseph Lopez, physical education:** "I thought it was another 'get drunk day.'"



**Tim Succop, physical education:** "Not a clue."



**Theresa Gonzales, child development:** "For when the Mexicans declared independence."

# NEWS

## Relay for Life is the biggest in the state

Cal State Bakersfield held its annual Relay for Life event on May 3. The 24-hour event had competitions and raffles.

By **BIANCA HERNANDEZ**  
bihernan@bakersfieldcollege.edu  
Rip staff writer

Hundreds of people representing various schools, local organizations and teams were on the soccer fields of Cal State Bakersfield, showing support for Relay for Life on May 3. The 24-hour event started Saturday morning with the survivors lap and continued into the night and Sunday morning with people constantly walking around the field.

Booths and tents representing different organizations and teams were set up on the entire field.

Everything from Target to the Kern County Fire Department and even Starbucks were there. Many booths were selling raffle tickets, food and other items and still earning money for the American Cancer Society. There was even a La Rosa man making the rounds of the field. Luminarias were prominently displayed around the field.

Each Luminaria cost \$15, and Sam Gonzalez, the Luminaria Chair, estimated that they sold 14,000 to 15,000. Luminarias can be done in memory of someone who has died from cancer or in honor of someone who has survived it. "We have a lot of community support," said Debby Anderson, a volunteer. Anderson



**Alexis Galvez, 2, watches as her sister Amaya has her face painted at the Relay for Life on May 3.**

also said that Bakersfield's Relay for Life is the biggest in the state and the 2nd biggest in the country. According to Gonzalez, people from other cities were shadowing the Bakersfield event because they want to do the same thing in their cities.

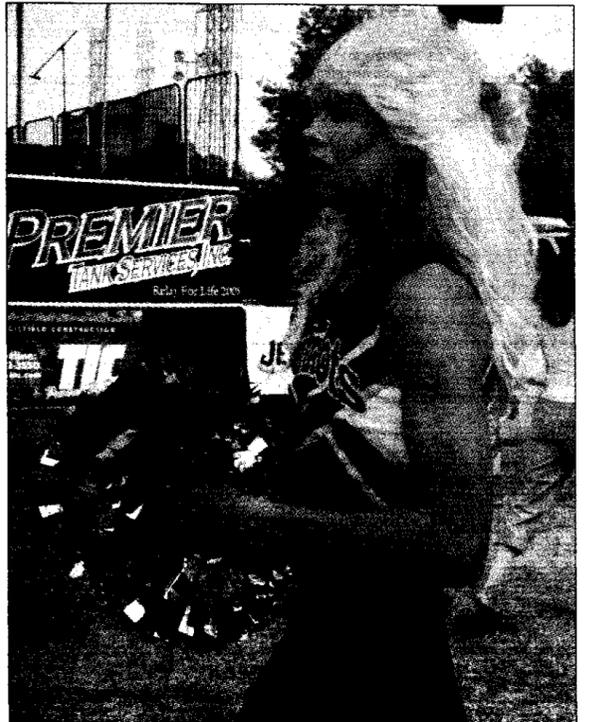
Desiree Adams, whose mother died of cancer 28 years ago, was there representing The Chocolate Martinis for the second year in a row.

The team was founded by Adams and Sue Cowan a few years after Cowan lost her mother to cancer. "We just decided we wanted to do

Relay for Life... and we just got a team together," said Adams.

Many local schools had representation at the event including Bakersfield College. According to Joe Saldivar, professor of biology at BC, the BC Pre-med Club raised more than \$2,000.

It's clear from the hundreds of Luminarias present that many people are effected by cancer, but it's also clear from the number of people that showed up for the event that many people are willing to help find a cure.



**Cory Barker waits to compete in the Relay for Life's 'Dude Looks Like a Lady' contest on May 3.**

## Delano Campus needs constitution for new SGA

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

The Delano Campus will not be its own college, but it may have its own student government.

Richard McCrow, the Delano Campus director, said the campus will eventually become its own college, but it requires certain standards that are yet to be met.

"It's going to take 10-15 years," said McCrow.

The Delano Campus is composed of some old buildings and is under

construction in building new ones. Since the beginning of December 2007, four Bakersfield College and Delano Campus students have been chosen to represent Delano in the BC Student Government Association senate meetings.

"I got a call from the director. He addressed he wanted some representation for our senate meetings," said John Lopez, BC's SGA President.

At the beginning of this year, Loy Salarda, Maria Zamora, Roberto Ibarra and Rovia Enblera were chosen by McCrow to be representa-

tives. Though these students are just representatives, they want to improve the Delano Campus for their students. "Delano has been in the shadows for too long," said Ibarra, molecular biology major. "We have old equipment like computers, printers, and vending machines that break apart unexpectedly. It takes months just to fix these things."

According to Zamora, business administration major, there is no cafeteria or library. Things at the Delano Campus lack student services. "It would be nice to have someone there to help out the students," said Zamo-

ra. "Hopefully, we can do something about it."

Having a Delano Campus SGA would not only bring improvement to their situations but also bring events to the campus. "BC does not inform us of news and events going on at BC," said Salarda, business administration major. "We have no student leaders, and we are completely overlooked."

Ibarra mentioned one of his goals is to bring rallies and Spring Fling-like events for the students at Delano.

According to Salarda, past BC SGA candidates have gone to Delano

Campus giving students false hopes of improvement. "They did that to get our votes but nothing would happen."

This year, John Lopez has been involved with the Delano Campus very closely, according to McCrow.

"We are bringing BC and Delano together by creating a SGA," said McCrow. "Give the voice to Delano."

But in order to have an SGA at Delano, the BC SGA needs to modify their constitution. "Delano also has to make their own constitution. Maybe they will be done by the end

of this semester," said Lopez. "This is a pretty bad time because of SGA elections and finals coming up."

Maria Zamora mentioned that the Delano representatives have been working on the constitution and making a student survey for Delano, which includes topics like having more classes, transportation services, student services and recycling bins.

The Delano Campus has more than 1,300 students, and all of them have to pay the registration fee. "None of the student fees go to our campus. It goes to BC," said Salarda. "It's unfair."

## Grants to increase tourism

By **TYRONE C. BARNER**  
tbarner@bakersfieldcollege.edu  
Rip staff writer

In an effort to stimulate growth in Kern County and to help further the mission of both the Buena Vista Museum of Natural History and the Bakersfield Museum of Art, grants were given to the two agencies.

Rick Davis, director of the Board of Trade in Kern County, and Mike Rubio from the Board of Supervisors presented the 2007-2008 Kern County Tourism Promotion Grants on May 2. Both agencies are in the Fifth Supervisorial District and are among the agencies receiving a portion of the \$250,000 made available by the supervisors during the 2007-2008 grant cycle.

The Buena Vista Museum of Natural History received \$14,000 for a regional advertising campaign while

the Museum of Art received \$22,500 for a regional marketing campaign and promotion of the annual Via Arte Street Painting Festival.

The intent of the grant program is to fund projects that develop, promote and/or expand tourism opportunities within Kern County. The specific focus of the current cycle is to assist qualified organizations in attracting out-of-county visitors and thus increase the economic benefits of tourism to the county.

The program is administered by the Kern County Board of Trade.

Davis said that tourism is a \$3 million-dollar-a-day business in Kern County. "To invest \$250,000 to bring in \$48.5 million in tourist dollars is a good investment," said Davis.

Travelers contribute more than \$1 billion annually to the local economy, according to figures provided by the California Travel and Tourism

Commission. Mike Rubio said that people should come downtown and see what Bakersfield has to offer if they need something to do.

Rubio is a local product and attended his first and second year of college at Bakersfield College before transferring to a college in Connecticut. Koral Hancharick, executive director of the Buena Vista Museum of Natural History, said the grant will bring in tourism and will be used outside the county.

The museum is sponsored using county and private funds. It does not receive state or federal funds. This is the third Board of Trade grant they have received and is the largest.

The museum has seen a 50 percent increase over the previous year from out-of-town visitors.

"It takes about \$100,000 to operate the museum on an annual basis," said Hancharick.

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# FEATURES



Photos by Marcinda Coil / The Rip

Above: People participate in a hula hoop contest to earn their beads at Festival of Beers. Right: Rhaya Lemons places a lei on Angel's shoulders for sampling a beer splashed in a long-stemmed cup during the festival April 26.



## Festival brews contentment

By MARCINDA COIL  
marcyc@yaho.com  
News editor

Cold, carbonated and perhaps translucent liquid rushed down tight throats during an 87-degree warm-up in Bakersfield April 26, the day in which the 16th Annual Festival of Beers was celebrated.

The smell of beer was in the air even before the line of people came in and gulped it down.

"We are officially open," said the announcer as Stranler Park began to fill up with soon-to-be stumbling people.

However, black boxes of pizzas were lined up and stacked for guests to sample, along with BJ's Restau-



Maria Howell styles Stephanie Rogers' hair for \$20.

rant and Brewery's Beer, Grills One Wild Catering and Champs BBQ

were also present to provide food to help patrons soak up alcohol.

An abundance of volunteers supervised the handling of beer and made sure that each sample taken was marked by a hole punch in sample cards.

Festival of Beers, which was put on by the Active 20-30 Club of Bakersfield, hosted numerous booths of beer to sample, such as Samuel Adams, Sapporo, Sierra Nevada, Sparks and Stone.

After 45 minutes worth of sampling 10 beers, Heather Zantun prefers Sierra Nevada.

"(I like) all of them," said Zantun's fellow beer buddy Sara L'Angoum as she giggled. "I'm a connoisseur. I

don't have a favorite, but I like the energy drinks. Sparks is really good."

Many uncommon beers were sampled as well, such as Newcastle Brown Ale, Anchor and Rogue beers, American Lager Center participated by handing out various Pyramid beers.

However, there were also more common alcohols present for the uncommon taste buds such as Miller, Budweiser, Corona, Tequila, Smirnoff, Fosters, Coors, Icehouse, Mickey's and Mike's various lemonades.

L'Angoum, though, did not care for Miller Light nor Miller Genuine Draft.

Others, such as Zantun, could not remember the name of the worst beer sample.

"I forgot the name of it," said Angel, who was currently on his sixth sample. "It was some (red) wine back there." According to an article in Bakotopia, Fetzer Vineyards debuted this year, showcasing their wines to beer connoisseurs.

BJ's, Moosehead Lager, Firestone Walker and Lengthwise Brewery were just a few more beer booths surrounding the tables that were set up in front of the main stage.

The main stage opened with Seed showcasing their reggae-rock style while playing a few favorites from Tom Petty and Social Distortion. Soular and Volorio soon followed.

Music was played on each side of the park. Walking was like changing radio stations. Cigar smoke bellowed from 17th Street Cigar Company while seemingly outgoing people participated in a hula-hoop contest



Chris Taylor of Seed, which began the live entertainment offered at the festival, sings reggae rock song "Rough Times."

nearby in front of Good Time Entertainment.

"Right now, I'm having a great time," said Stefani Rogers while her hair was being prepared. "I'm waiting to get ready so we can take pictures and model out here for everyone."

Even donations made in volunteers' names will go to help a children's charity.

## Cops lay down law at Battle of the Badges

By KYLE BEALL  
kbeall@bakersfieldcollege.edu  
Opinion editor

There was plenty of blood, sweat, food, beer and badges all in the name of charity.

Kern County police officers and probation officers battled it out fist-cuff style at the 14th annual Battle of the Badges April 25 inside Cal State Bakersfield's Icardo Center.

The event is put on every year by The Bakersfield Police Activities League.

There were a total of 13 fights planned, but only 12 actually started and only 11 actually finished.

The last fight between Kern County Probation officer Eric Medrano and Jerry Miranda, California Department of Corrections, was called a TKO 35 seconds into the first round because Miranda injured his right leg just as the match was about to begin.

Julio Martinez, probation, showed up to show his support despite not being able to have his rematch against Diaz who had beaten Martinez at last year's Battle of the Badges by a decision.

According to Martinez, it was disappointing that he didn't get to fight, but he said that the reason they are there is to help the kids and the police department.

"It's a chance to show that hard work pays off," said Martinez.

The crowd roared with laughter and cheered when Todd Marain, CDC, took on Jacob Hale, probation. Looking like "Butterbean," Marain punched Hale, who actually resembled Andy Kaufman, so hard and fast that Hale fell to the ground three separate times once so hard that it didn't appear that he was going to get back up.

The five judges scored that but a split draw, but Hale's face looked swollen and bruised while Marain appeared a little tired but didn't seem to have a scratch.

Rosa Archer fought for supremacy over Tehachapi Police Department officer Amelia Perman and lost.

The rounds were three minutes each with three intense rounds of full contact boxing. The combatants wore gloves and headgear, but that didn't prevent several of the fighters from receiving cuts, black eyes and fat lips.

"All these guys that get beat up, they'll get up and go to work the next day," said Johnny Guerra, Miranda's cousin.

Paramedics from Hall Ambulance were standing by to assess and assist with any injuries the fighters or patrons incurred.

There were ring girls who walked the ropes in two-piece bikinis with the round cards. During intermission, they tossed beads into the stands.

Kern County District Attorney Ed Jagels was there walking through the crowd and shaking hands.

There was a lot of drinking going on.

The beer booths stayed packed throughout the night up until they closed when the fights were over.

# FEATURES

## Kern Valley nature celebrate at festival

By NICHOLAS SPARLING  
nsparling@bakersfieldcollege.edu  
Rip staff writer

This year was the 14th annual Kern River Valley Spring Nature Festival, which was a weeklong event celebrating the diversity of plants and animals in our own backyard.

The festival featured nature walks, educational booths and teaching of the diverse birds, reptiles, bugs, plants and trees of the Kern River Valley as well as live music and activities for the kids.

The festival was held at the Audubon Kern River Preserve in Southlake and also in Kernville's Circle Park. Both sites had educational booths and offered events of cost as well as free events.

According to the Kern River Preserve Web site, "Within a 15 mile radius, the highest diversity of flora and fauna found anywhere in California" is in the Kern River Valley.

Jihadda Godan represented the Federal Department of the Interior and the Fish and Wildlife Refuge. The Kern National Wildlife Federation has an over 100-year history of preserving species although their main focus in Kern County is water

fowl. On May 3, the featured band was Robbie The Piper and The Out of Killers, which featured an eclectic mix of singing, recorder, mandolin, guitar and drum playing to accompany Irish folk and blues tunes.

There was a demonstration for native reptiles and amphibians done by Dr. Buzz Lunsford.

The demonstration wasn't very large because it is still early in the season for the cold-blooded animals. Later in the year, there is a festival specifically for reptiles and amphibians.

There was a large desert tortoise and a table with four cages displaying different native snakes. They had three species of rattlesnakes and a gopher snake to show the differences between the two as harmless gopher snakes mimic many of the features and actions of rattlesnakes.

"We put GPS on them after we catch them and before we release them. They don't make good pets. They're wild animals. It would be like me locking you up and throwing you a Big Mac every day. You might like it for a few weeks, but then you would get tired of it. Well, so do they. They belong in the wild; you

wouldn't go to the pet store and buy a bear or a tiger just like you wouldn't want to buy one of these animals. They should be left in the wild and people who are afraid should be taught so that they won't be afraid of them anymore," said Lunsford.

"Audubon isn't just for birds. It's for all animals. Right now our organization's main focus is our jumpstart program for the Southwestern Pond Turtle," said Audubon member Gordon Hepbach.

The turtles are trapped, and this being the second year of the head start program, they found out just last year that the turtles could be bred in captivity.

The turtles are not yet on the endangered species list, but they are a species of concern.

Last year they only produced six eggs, and only five successfully hatched.

The gestation period is 84 to 90 days although each turtle can live to be up to 70 years old and can't reproduce until age 10.

There was also a Spring Nature Run, both 10k and 5k, a bird banding demonstration and scheduled nature walks that focused on plants, trees, birds and other animals.



PHOTOS BY CARA JACKSON / THE RIP



Above: Out of the Blue Acoustic Music Band played at the Kern River Valley Spring Nature Festival on May 4. Left to right: Michael Gallagher, Patricia Seamount and Terry Harris perform.

Left: Bird watchers traveled to participate in the Nature Walk and hope to spot the many protected and endangered birds at the Kern River Preserve.

## Select BC courses will be linked to help students

By KATHERINE J. WHITE  
kwhite@bc.cca.ca.us  
Copy editor

Many regular Bakersfield College academic courses will be linked with reading courses in fall 2008.

Academic Development instructor Susan Pinza says that an ACDV B50 reading course can be taken concurrently with a regular transferable academic course such as physical anthropology or geology. Of course,

either the transferable course or the reading course can be taken separately.

The linked courses have come under the appellation "Learning Communities." According to Pinza, the paired courses have their own CRNs.

A linked course, for example, might be officially listed as LRNC B301 for the paired physical anthropology and reading courses. Each pair will be worth six units. The time

schedule for the paired classes will run almost back-to-back. For example, BC geology and earth science instructor Natalie Bursztyzn's geology class will run from 8-9:25 a.m. and will soon be followed by Pinza's ACDV B50 from 9:35-11 a.m. Mondays and Wednesdays.

Pinza and Bursztyzn will both be using Christopher McGowan's novel "The Dragon Seekers." Other paired classes will very likely be sharing the same textbooks, according to Pinza.

Several BC instructors, including ACDV instructors Pinza, Emily Hurlbut and Bonnie Suderman as well as anthropology instructor Karen Kettner and history instructor Ann Wiederrecht were inspired by a workshop they attended in San Francisco in January 2007 called Leadership Institute in Reading Apprenticeship to improve student reading skills. BC instructors have become concerned about students who may not have sufficient reading skills to understand

the concepts and specialized terms presented in the textbooks used in the transferable courses.

"Learning a specific discipline is a lot like learning a new language," said Kettner.

Kettner's physical anthropology course will be working in conjunction with Odella Johnson's ACDV B50.

Phil Feldman, who will be instructing an ACDV B50 that will be paired with Annette Charron's ENSL

B2 course said that the "Learning Communities" program has proven to be very successful in other colleges such as Grossmont Community College where an overall increase in student grades was observed.

Ann Wiederrecht, who will instruct the history B17a course that will be paired with Kimberly Nickell's ACDV B50, is eager to engage in this program and is looking forward to seeing a hike in the student success rate.

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