

SPORTS

Frieson's goals met at BC

By VINCENT PEREZ
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Rip staff writer

Bakersfield College running back Bruce Frieson reached 1,000 yards in his second season on Oct. 25 against Glendale, as he joined BC's David Turner as the second BC football player to reach 1,000 yards in two seasons.

Frieson also surpassed BC's Greg Jones for third on the all-time career-rushing list in a 31-17 loss to Ventura College on Nov. 1. Frieson had 130 yards and carried the ball 24 times. Frieson currently has 2,409 yards in his two years as a Renegade.

On Oct. 25, Frieson passed J.R. Rogers for fourth place in all-time career-rushing yards in a 45-21 victory over Glendale.

Frieson, 20, is originally from Cleveland, and football has been a part of his life since he was 6 years old when his older brother, Michael Rice, introduced him to the sport. Frieson attended Glenville Academy in Cleveland and played football for the school.

Frieson's brother Rice also played football in high school but never attempted to play college football. Rice currently lives and works in Cleveland.

Frieson's younger brother, Shannon, plays football as a freshman at Kentucky State University as a running back and kick returner.

Frieson's previous college was Toledo University where he spent a year as a red-shirt freshman. Toledo offensive coordinator Chris Hedden suggested that he head west and play for BC to receive some playing time.

Coach Jeff Chudy said about Frieson, "Everything he does is 100 percent. We're big believers in 'you play like you practice.'"

With Frieson showing up to every practice, assistant coach Carl Dean said, "He sets the tone by finishing drills and leads by example."

Dean said, "He can be a vocal leader." But more importantly to the coaches, he leads by example.

Chudy sees great potential for Frieson, as he said, "He's got unbelievable work ethic. He works as hard as any other player on the team and stays in shape. He's there at 6:30 a.m. practices on time."

Dean said, "Bruce is a consistent workforce. He gives an outstanding effort every time on Saturdays."

Chudy said about his accomplishments so far in the season, "He works hard and has played with great players," and added, "In football, you have to have complementary pieces, and our offensive line is one of the best around at this level."

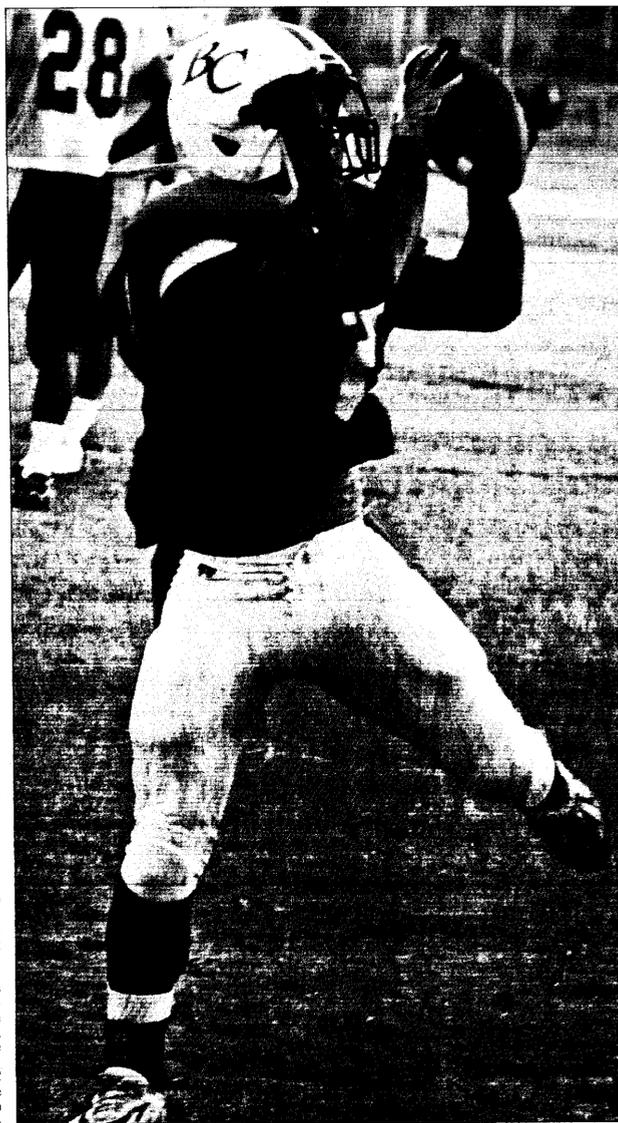
Frieson's relationship with his BC teammates is very good. In his time off, Frieson said, "I hang out with teammates, and I watch a lot of movies."

Frieson's favorite actor is Denzel Washington because "He's really confident in the roles he plays," he said.

Frieson says he has a "pretty good diet with a lot of protein and calcium." But in the off-season, he eats more and with less concern for getting in protein or calcium.

Frieson's pre-game ritual, along with stretching, is to "Thank the Lord in prayer and thank Him for the opportunity to play," he said.

Chudy said, "He's a very selfless



CARA JACKSON / THE RIP

BC running back Bruce Frieson catches the ball during practice on Oct. 29. Frieson is currently third on the BC all-time rushing list and first in the state in rushing.

BC wins 2 of 3

By TAYLOR M. GOMBOS
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Sports editor

The Bakersfield College volleyball team has gone 2-1 over the last two weeks, which included a win over Citrus College.

On Oct. 30, BC defeated Citrus 17-25, 25-13, 19-25 25-23, 15-3. "I didn't think we had our 'A' game tonight. Sometimes good teams find ways to win when you're not at your best. I thought that's exactly what we did tonight," head coach Carl Ferreira said following the match against Citrus.

BC's Brooke Holmes had 11 kills, while teammate Reisa Fessler had 10 kills. Heather Liles also added seven kills for the Renegades.

Sarah Kuffen had eight service aces, seven digs and four kills to lead the Renegades to a win against West LA 25-9, 25-8, 25-8 on Oct. 28. Also in victory, Fessler had seven kills and three aces.

guy," to which coach Dean added, "No matter who's running the ball on the field, Frieson (Andre) Smith or any other running back, there's no need for glory on who scores touchdowns."

Frieson has always been humble about his achievements. "That's the way my mom raised me," he said.

However, Frieson is still proud of his accomplishments, as he said

when announcer Carl Bryan announced his name for the milestones at the Glendale game, "Honestly, I was just happy, but I was still thinking about the game."

Frieson is optimistic about the future. "I just have to stay focused and continue to get better," he said.

Frieson is currently being scouted by Kansas State, but Frieson has other plans, as he said, "I'm leaning

toward Toledo," to make his return to the team.

Frieson's eventual goal is to make it to the National Football League, and he would like to be a coach following a career in the NFL. "I'd like to coach at a top (college) program," he said.

Frieson expressed his feelings toward athletics, as he said, "I always had a passion for sports."



CARA JACKSON / THE RIP

Above: BC's Reisa Fessler serves for the team against Citrus in which she had 13 kills. Right: Brooke Holmes (left) and Maddie Dahl (right) attempt to block the ball against Citrus on Oct. 30.



BASKETBALL PREVIEWS

BC women look to bounce back

By TAYLOR M. GOMBOS
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Sports editor

The Bakersfield College women's basketball team comes into this season looking to bounce back from a bad season.

The Renegades finished last season with a record of 3-25 overall and 1-11 in the Western State Conference.

"Last season was a really tough year. We had one sophomore and all freshmen," head coach Paula Dahl said.

"This year, our returners have seen a completely different year because they are sophomores."

Dahl added, "I told my sophomores, 'You are sophomores now. You need to step up and be leaders.' They have worked really hard and conditioned hard. That's what's going to pay off for us."

The sophomores on the team are Kristin Alvidrez, Ashley Hiriarte, Nicole Lopez, Sarah Stockton and Jacquelyn Rodriguez.

Dahl mentioned that the guard play will be the strength of the team this year but added that the Renegades also have strong shooters.

"I am actually coaching some stuff I have never coached before," she said. "I've changed a lot of my philosophies to counter the fact that we have great shooters."

Another reason why Dahl has changed her philosophies is because of the lack of height.

Dahl said that the Renegades have been working on their defense in practice.

"We've been spending a ton of time on defense and trying

to teach them how to pressure," said Dahl. "We're in that process where we've been practicing for so long it's just time to wait and see what's going to happen when we get to a game."

Dahl said that this year's team is more athletic than last season's team.

"We have more athleticism than we did last year. We've got kids who are not afraid to take it to the hole. It doesn't matter how big the people are inside. They're not afraid to take it in. That's not a bad thing," Dahl said.

The Renegades will open up the season by participating in the San Diego Mesa Tournament Nov. 7-9, which is something that Dahl feels will be a good thing for her team.

"We open up against Fullerton. They're very good. It will be a great challenge for us," she said.

"We're playing some of the top teams in the state to get started with, which will be great learning and letting them see what we are really talking about."

The Renegades first home game will be Nov. 21 against Rio Hondo at 5 p.m. in the Gil Bishop Sports Center.

"My biggest goal is for these kids to have success. For my sophomores and freshmen to understand that hard work does pay off, and staying consistent for 40 minutes and not getting caught up in the ebbs and flows of the game but just to stay consistent with what you are doing is good. In the end, you will have success," Dahl said. "We've told them that if you do what we ask you to do, then you'll be in a position to win night in and night out."

Men's basketball shoots for more

BC men look to repeat last year's Final Four appearance and beyond. Coach Hughes has faith in young team.

By TAYLOR M. GOMBOS
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Sports editor

The Bakersfield College men's basketball team, which is coming off an appearance in the community college Final Four, comes into this season with a young team.

The Renegades finished last season 22-15 overall and 7-5 in the Western State Conference and are striving for another chance to the state tournament.

"You're glad that you get there (to the Final Four), but you're unhappy when you don't win it all especially when our conference opponent won it," head coach Rick Hughes said.

"They're (the sophomores) motivated to get back there and have another shot at winning state."

Hughes mentioned that having his sophomore returners back will help the new players to play within their systems.

The three sophomores who are returning this season are: Jamarr Harrison, guard Darrin Dorsey and center Alex Ocot.

Hughes said that he and his coaching staff makes their practices hard in order to better prepare his team for a game.

"We try to make practices as tough as we can, so when we get into games, we are prepared," he said. "Some practices are harder than others, but that's where we develop our mentality of go hard or go home. We expect and demand our guys to play hard and to practice hard."

Hughes said that the strength of his team will be their defense, and he feels that shooting will also be strength.

"I think we're better defensively, because we have more speed, and

we're more athletic than we were last year. On the defensive side, we are going to use an improve ment from last year," he said.

"I think we're going to shoot better that a lot of people think we will. We have a lot of guys who can contribute each night, and that's going to make us tough."

Although Hughes thinks the shooting will be strength of his team, he mentioned that the offense needs some work.

"We're a little behind offensively. It's going to take us a little bit of time to learn all of our plays and to get comfortable with one another," said Hughes.

"The offense may be a little bit behind, but it will catch up as we get going."

During the off season, Hughes hired his brother Jeff, who was a former assistant and head coach of the Renegades, to help out with the team.

"He's got a wealth of knowledge. He's been to the Elite Eight with three different teams. He won it as an assistant at Columbia," he said. "I was happy that he decided to help me out because he brings a lot to the table. He's very good defensively. He's going to bring a little bit more toughness to us defensively."

Hughes mentioned that the team breaks their goals down into three seasons.

"We always break it down into three seasons. The first season is the preseason. We're going to try to win as many tournaments as possible and get to the finals of tournaments," said Hughes.

"In conference we would like to get back to a conference championship. Lastly is the playoff season. We want to get back to where we were to get to the Elite Eight and challenge for a state championship."

The Renegades enter this season ranked thirteenth in the pre-season state coaches poll.

The Renegades' first action will be at the Ventura Tournament Nov. 7-9, while their first home game will be Nov. 13 against Al lan Hancock at 7 pm.



Music from Kern

Bakersfield's music scene booms with novice to professional music talents.

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Show celebrates China

Chinese associations gather to share culture through art and music.

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★★★★ ELECTION COVERAGE 2008 ★★★★★

BARACK OBAMA MAKES HISTORY

Local Obama supporters celebrate the historic victory over Republican John McCain.

By JOHNIE W. BURCH, IV
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Rip staff writer

Emotions and expectations ran rampant at the Double Tree Hotel on Rosedale Highway election night, Nov. 4. Cheers, chants, tears and excitement could be seen and heard as the polls closed at 8 p.m.

Very shortly after 8 p.m., CNN projected that Barack Obama had won the election, becoming the first African-American president in American history. The crowd exploded into celebratory cheers that were even louder than the cheers before.

"I am feeling very elated," Candi Easter, chairman of the Kern County Democratic Party, said. "It is a great new day. I was never really worried that he wouldn't get the presidency, but I didn't want to seem too enthusiastic or jinx us."

Many times throughout the night, the crowd in attendance at the democratic celebration party began chanting, "Obama" or "Si, se puede" meaning, "Yes, it can be done," while holding up Obama/Biden signs for the numerous television cameras that were at the event.

"This is beyond words," said Bernita Jenkins, Obama Team Leader for CD22. "It was not a worry of mine of what was going to happen tonight; I didn't have time to worry."

Men, women, young and old of different ethnicities showed up for the event to voice their support, excitement and expectations for Obama.

"I hope he will completely change the backward motion of our country," Easter said.

"I look forward to a change in the economy," Jenkins said. "I look forward to a group of people, as Americans, coming together, and I look forward to some of our racial distances to be squashed."

Fran Florez, who ran for California State Assembly against Danny Gilmore, talked with supporters, press and colleagues.

"It is all very historical and exciting," Florez said. "I hope that some of the things that he has talked about can actually be done because we need positive change."

Expectations are high for the new president-elect. But those expectations are also hopeful and supportive. As Fran Florez put it: "We'll see what the next four years bring."



JOHN ORNELAS / THE RIP

Michelle Johnson, center, cheers as CNN declares Barack Obama the winner of the presidential election at the Kern County Democratic party.

GOP disappointed, but plans to still stay strong

By ELI CALDERON
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Rip staff writer



ALLY ARMSTRONG / THE RIP

Republican Jerry Reynolds, a 1968 BC graduate, watches as Sen. John McCain concedes to president-elect Barack Obama.

Frances Filize, an elderly citizen, watched with arms at her hips as McCain congress declared Obama on becoming the 44th president of the United States over the news broadcast. "I'm dreadfully sorry McCain has lost," she later said as she shed tears. "I'm very disappointed because I think the security of the United States is at risk, and I disagree with many things Obama plans for our country. 'I intend to play for President Obama whether I agree with him or not because he is my president now.'"

B Ryder's Bar and Grill was filled to capacity on election night. "Every election we have a party and watch the polls and grit our teeth waiting for the results," said Dennis Beebe, member of the Board of Trustees for the Kern Community College District.

Around 200 people showed up to watch the polls and news coverage on the bar's several flat screen TV's. The bar was overflowing with several citizens gathered in conversation, drinks and what they hoped would be a celebration. However, the commotion came to a complete silence as McCain was seen on all of the bar's screens walking on stage.

Bakersfield College communications professor Dustin Dodgin, who is also faculty advisor for BC Republicans as well as a member of the Kern County Young Republicans, was also disappointed. "Certainly it would have been great to have a McCain victory. It's going to take four

years to realize that Republicans are the party of job creation and a strong economy; if there's a silver lining to this cloud, it's that people are going to wise up and be reminded of that." Dodgin also commented about the country's future. "If the plans Obama proposed in his election are implemented, we're going to have more tough times."

Congressman Kevin McCarthy, a former Bakersfield College student, also wished the election had turned out differently. "As Republicans, we don't put our head down, we wake up and work harder the next day. I also want to congratulate the Democrats on winning, but this loss doesn't mean we change our philosophy. Our party is still at the core of American values."

See GOP, Page 2

BC playoff hopes dashed with loss

Renegades will face undefeated College of the Canyons on Nov. 15.

By TAYLOR M. GOMBOS
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Sports editor

After making two straight Southern California championship appearances, the Bakersfield College football team will not be making an appearance in the playoffs this season. The Renegades also won't qualify for the Golden Empire Bowl.

According to the Commission On Athletics, a team with a .500 record can only go to a bowl game if they win their conference.

The top eight teams in the final SoCal poll will earn playoff berths while the next six teams will earn bowl bids if they are over or at .500 and have won their conference.

"It's a disappointment. We're where we're at for a reason. We've made too many critical errors throughout the year," head

coach Jeff Chudy said.

The Renegades gave up 299 yards passing and four touchdown passes to quarterback Lee Mondol as the Renegades fell to Ventura College 31-17 Nov. 1.

"We didn't play very well. We made too many mistakes. We gave up too many plays over 20 yards. We just didn't put our best foot forward," said Chudy.

In the loss to Ventura, BC running back Bruce Frieson had 25 carries for 156 yards and two touchdowns to move up to third place on BC's rushing list.

Also in the loss, BC quarterback Joe Maldonado finished 8 for 15 for 76 yards with no touchdowns and no interceptions. Maldonado was also sacked four times.

On Oct. 25, Maldonado went 6 for 6 for 118 yards and two touchdowns and Frieson added 20 carries for 179 and one touchdown as the Renegades defeated Glendale College 45-21. After that win, BC still had bowl and playoff possibilities if it beat Ventura.

"It's a disappointment. We're where we're at for a reason. We've made too many critical errors throughout the year."

— Jeff Chudy, Head coach

Maldonado.

In the game against Glendale, Maldonado also added two rushing touchdowns while wide receiver Chikadibi Madu caught three passes for 52 yards and a touchdown. Receiver William Randle caught one pass for 43 yards and a touchdown.

The Renegades, who have a record of 4-5 overall and 3-2 in the Northern National Conference, will have a bye week Nov. 8 before finishing the regular season at home against College of the Canyons on Nov. 15 at 1 p.m. Canyons is ranked No. 2 in the state with an overall record of 6-0 and a record of 4-0 in the Northern National.

Chudy feels that his team has to put out a great effort in order to beat Canyons.

"We've got to put our best foot forward. Hopefully, we can come out and play a great game. This will be like a bowl game for us."

— Bucky Page, BC tight end Zack Holmes practices with BC teammates on Oct. 29. BC's playoff hopes ended against Ventura College on Nov. 1.

"We were getting after it. Every phase of the game, we did a nice job. Offensively, we kept them off balance," Chudy said.

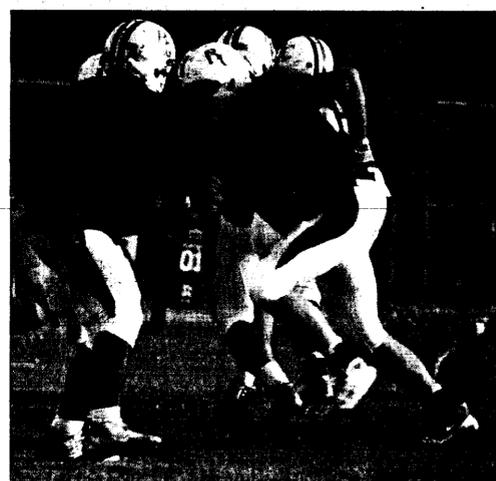
Chudy felt that the first half against Glendale was the best first half of the season for the Renegades.

Maldonado, who was making his second collegiate start against Glendale, felt that he performed just the way he knew he had to.

"I just came out and told myself that I had to perform. That's what I had to do, and I did," said

Chudy.

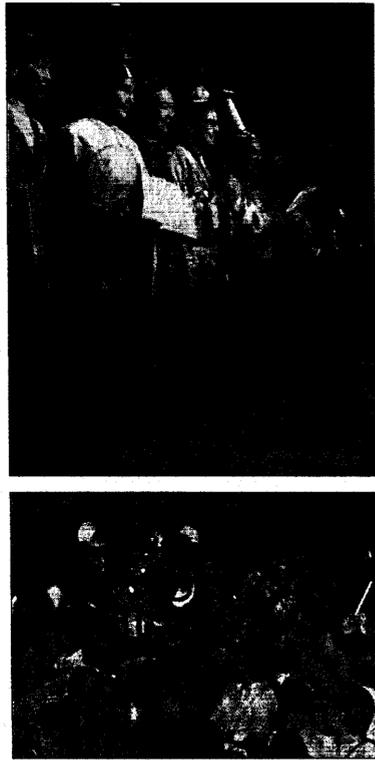
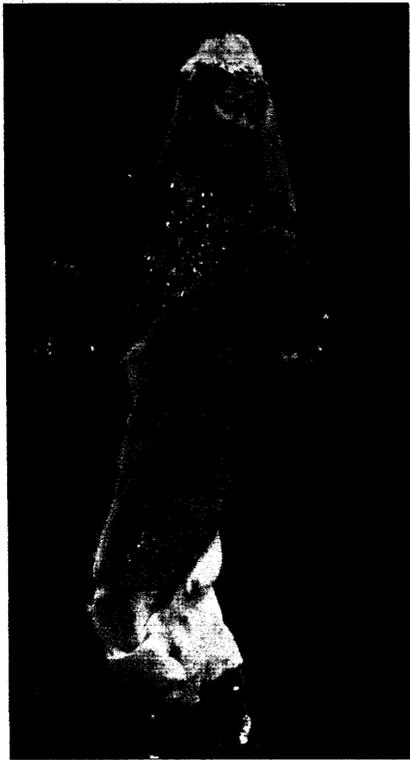
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CARA JACKSON / THE RIP

BC tight end Zack Holmes practices with BC teammates on Oct. 29. BC's playoff hopes ended against Ventura College on Nov. 1.

FEATURES



PHOTOS BY CARA JACKSON / THE RIP

Chinese Cultural Month

Left: Olivia Feng, 11, performs the Uygur Dance at the Chinese Cultural program on Oct 25. Feng belongs to the American Chinese Dance Association and will perform in L.A. on Nov. 9 for Southern California.

Top Right: The Beale Memorial Library hosted the Chinese Cultural Program. The Chinese Women's Club organized this event to encourage donations for a scholarship program for college-bound high school seniors. The Bakersfield Women's Club presents a costume show in which models display the styles of dynasties and eras of Chinese fashion.

Bottom Right: The Lion Dance is demonstrated by the Golden Lion Studio. Many people gather around to watch the four dragons dance. The dragons, supported by two different people danced on stage and on the auditorium.

Chinese celebrate cultural month

By MARYANN KOPP
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Rip staff writer

The Bakersfield Chinese Woman's Club and the Chinese American Association of Kern County completed their Chinese Cultural Month at the Beale Memorial Library, Oct. 25, with a Chinese Cultural Show.

The show, held in the library's packed auditorium, started off with a Lion Dance demonstration by the Golden Lion Studio. Four "dragons," varying in size and all but one supported by two different people, danced in front of the stage and around the auditorium. One adult and three children played drums, gongs and cymbals onstage while the performance took place.

A traditional Chinese dance was performed by Olivia Feng, a young girl who did a Uygur Dance of Xingjiang Province. Feng's performance spanned one song, and her costume reflected the character she was playing, named "Alamahan," who "loves to sing and dance," and "is a beautiful and talented girl."

Two other young performers, Hannah and Meghan Tran, played three songs on ancient Chinese zithers. Having only played for a year, the two moved in synch with one another, as both instruments complemented each other.

Zithers are stringed instruments, resembling very large harpsichords in the way that they lie flat, but differ by being much larger in size and requiring both hands to pluck. It was first recorded in 220 B.C.

The final part of the show was a Chinese women's fashion show that spanned about 5,000 years, distinguishable by dynasty.

Twenty-four models displayed outfits that were typical of the Shang, Zhou, Qin, Han, Tang, Song, Yuan, Ming and Qing Dynasties, as well as modern Qipao and fashion from the Republic of China.

Cathie Godges coordinated the event and said that the fashion show was the fourth the association did this year. The first three were performed at clubs and

private affairs. After The Bakersfield Californian covered one of the events, there was a response from the public, wondering whether they would be able to perform for the public. That is what brought about Chinese Cultural Month at the Beale.

The costumes worn in the fashion show were a combination of heirlooms, and some were sewn specifically for the event. Others were ordered from China. "If we didn't have it, we made it," Godges said.

Godges, in addition to putting the entire program for the month together, also hosted the show and did running commentary throughout. Between explanations of dynasties and clothing, she also included explanations of scientific and other accomplishments of the Chinese during the many time periods.

This was educational for the women involved," she said. "It helped American-born Chinese women to learn more about their culture."

Two Tang Dynasty models, Kristi Townsend and Beckee Barnes, have been best friends since the age of five and have both been part of the Bakersfield Chinese Women's Club for three years. Townsend's mother was part of the club, as was Barnes' grandmother.

"Cathie needed models, so we decided to volunteer," Townsend said.

Townsend also said that most of the outfits were "one size fits all," but efforts were made to match the model with the costume. She had some of her great-grandfather's clothes to contribute to the event and said that all of the headpieces were handmade.

The two had "a lot of fun" participating in the event and, as Barnes said, being in the club has brought them closer together. Townsend and Barnes said that the main function of the club is to raise scholarships for high school Chinese students.

Whether this event will become an annual event depends on the response they receive from the public, Godges said. However, it will be a bi-annual event as, according to Godges, it's "too much work to do every year."

Bakersfield comic convention shows other side of community

By GABINO VEGA ROSARIO
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Online editor

Thanksgiving is near, and that's one of the reasons the Bakersfield Comic-Con convention was held at the Double Tree Hotel on Oct. 26.

Sieve Wyatt, 44, was the promoter for the first official annual event. In the past, there have been conventions that brought together comic books and the public, but a very low interest led to some unsuccessful Comic-Cons.

This year, in order to get more people involved in the event, Wyatt gave away free passes to involve the city. "My purpose was to expose people to things that they are not exposed to: comic books," said Wyatt. He also mentioned that the event was not for the money, but it was for the public's benefit, so that they would feel like getting involved.

A charity raffle was one of the main attractions because the grand prize was to be drawn like a "Simpsons" character. "All the raffle money will be going to the Bakersfield Food Bank," said Wyatt. There was

also a raffle-like opportunity for anybody who paid the entry fee. Every 30 minutes, names would be drawn from the registration box and a free prize distributed for the one with the winning name.

Scott Shaw from Oddball Comics held a comedy presentation, discussing comics with his Oddball Comics. The convention sold a variety of items like comic books, video games, movies, pornographic comics, posters and even custom-made shirts.

Robert Quinn, 38, was selling shirts for \$10 with any design chosen by the customers. This Anaheim resident spent about \$2,000 for equipment but is looking forward to doing more conventions. "A couple of years ago, it was pretty slow, but now we have a great crowd that showed up," said Quinn.

Companies like Game Crazy, Russo's Bookstore and Bakotopia all had booths selling and distributing their products. Comic books, toys and rare record albums were sold at the booth of Dennis Yaviku, 51. Yaviku also sells his comic books at Ryan's Toy Collection, the best toy collection store in the Valley, according to Yaviku.

He gets his comic books from Diamond Distributors and has decreased his order form as the years progressed. "When I buy these comic books, they are non-refundable, so it gets pretty tough." Because the economy is shrinking, the paper cost has increased, and ink cost increased, the industry has done a phenomenal job keeping the prices down, according to Yaviku.

Actors Rod Reed and Josh Reed made a Batman and Robin appearance with detailed costumes. "This is a custom-made suit take from the 'Batman and Robin' movie with George Clooney," said Josh.

According to Rod, a lot of pieces of the suit were imported from Germany, Switzerland and the United Kingdom and carefully sewn together by both Josh and Rod. "We get a lot of attention," said Rod. "We can't even walk."

Both brothers participate in parades, movie premieres and children's hospitals. "Bakersfield needs to expand the line," said Josh. "This (Comic-Con) is going to get bigger and bigger, and we are here to be a part of it."

Kevin Rush and his children, Catherine, 7, and Scott, 11, receive drawings made by Phil Ortiz at the Bakersfield Comic-Con on Oct. 26. Phil Ortiz, an award winning animator, has been animating since the late 1970's.



ALLY ARMSTRONG / THE RIP

Castle Print & Publication

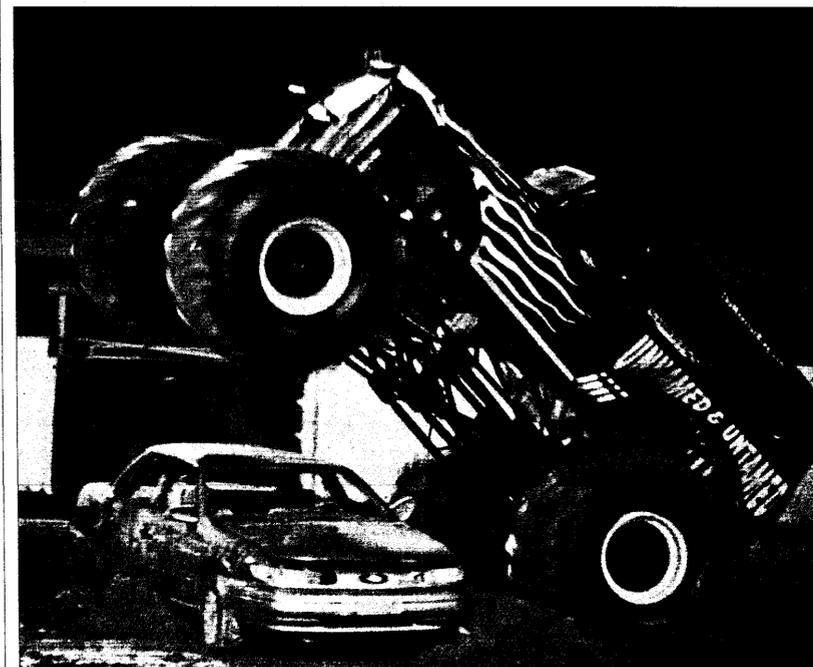
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NEWS



At the Kern County Fair Grounds on Nov. 1 Del Taco presents the Monster Truck spectacular that shows four monster trucks jump over small automobiles as the crowd cheers on. The monster truck called the "Unnamed and Untamed" tries to clear the obstacle.

Monster trucks excite fans



The monster truck named "Nasty Boy" amazes the crowd by trying to clear the three vehicles in the arena.



Acts featured quad races and damaged vehicles which raced around the arena trying to clear as much ground as possible.

Photos by Cara Jackson / The Rip

Location of GET bus terminal to change on campus

Plans are being made for moving the GET bus terminal to Panorama Drive.

By KATHERINE J. WHITE
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Copy editor

The GET bus will soon get moving to Panorama Drive.

Plans are in the works to move the bus terminal, located in front of Bakersfield College's Outdoor Theater, to Panorama near the front of the business education building. The project is entirely funded by GET, according to Gina Hayden, GET marketing manager.

Hayden said the approximate cost will be \$1.8 million for construction. There is no current timeline for the project, and there are no set designs

for it at this time, she said. The project is very much in the initial stage.

The project has only been recently authorized with a signed contract. The project will include amenities, such as restrooms and will be more accommodating to disabled students.

However, many BC students see no reason for the move. "It'll just block traffic," said Victoria Beaudette, 23, business administration and economics major.

James Fick, 18, child development major, who has a mild form of cerebral palsy, said he doesn't think the move is a good idea. Fick, who uses crutches, said he doesn't think other disabled students would appreciate the trek to Panorama.

"What difference would it make if they moved it?" said disabled student Karen West, journalism major, who uses a wheelchair to get around campus. "Are the hills less steep over there?"



JOSEPH WHIPKEY / THE RIP

BC students wait to get on the GET bus on Oct. 30.

Alumni Association hosts Hall of Fame

By SEGGAN MOORE
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Rip staff writer

The Bakersfield College Alumni Association will be hosting the Herb Loken Hall of Fame induction on Nov. 13 in the Huddle at the Gil Bishop Sports Center.

The association nominates the inductees formed from members of the alumni association, headed by Herb Loken, which the hall of fame is named after. This hall of fame recognizes people who have continued or provided service to BC through the Alumni Association.

Becki Whitson, professor of psychology and president of the BC Alumni Association, says that this is a very nice event and that "people look forward to it."

Sally Hill, John Turner and Mayor Harvey Hall will be in-

stalled on this night. Tickets are \$30 in advance only and may be purchased at the Foundation Office. Socializing begins at 6 p.m., and dinner with a program to follow will start at 7 p.m. This will be catered by BC Food Services.

Another event that the alumni association will be putting on is a WWII Veterans Night at the football game on Nov. 15.

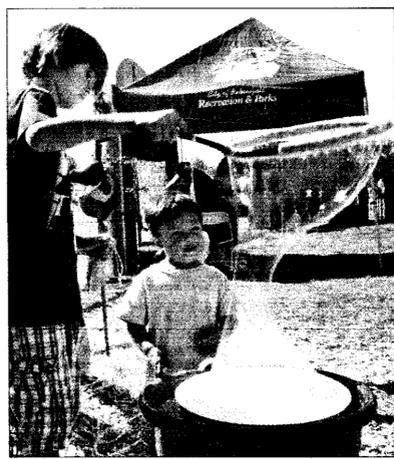
The association wanted to recognize WWII veterans who attended BC.

All veterans from this war are invited to come to the game and can get in for free if they wear an article of clothing recognizing their branch of the military that they served for.

A halftime ceremony will announce the veterans. A reception will follow the game in the Huddle. All veterans and members of their families are invited.

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NEWS



Fun at the Fall Festival

Above: Grant Nelson, 10, impresses his younger brother Ryan Aguirre, 2, with the big bubble wand in Story Time Land. Story Time Land was a section at the second annual Fall Festival that provided children with entertaining activities including bubbles and other child friendly activities.

Above right: While taking a break from the festivities, Rafael Leyva shares some of his mango flavored ice cream with his son Rafael Leyva Jr. His other son, Robert Leyva, eats his watermelon flavored ice cream.

Right: Ryan Aguirre, 2, blows bubbles with his triple hole bubble wand in Story Time Land.

Photos by Alejandro Montano / The Rip



BC gives 1,300 free flu shots

By MARYANN KOPP
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Rip staff writer

As a means to help prepare the Public Health Department and the Bakersfield College nursing students faculty and volunteers for a situation where mass vaccinations would be necessary, BC gave free flu shots via drive-through on Oct. 24.

Even being equipped with 800 vaccinations, the response from the public was much more than anticipated.

Due to people arriving as early as 10 a.m., participants had to start administering vaccinations at 12:30 p.m., 30 minutes earlier than planned. By 1:30 p.m., all 800 vaccinations had been given.

"We had to call for an additional 500 vaccinations," said Amber Chiang, who served as the Public Information Officer at the event. All press and media were directed to Chiang for all information. "The county was able to help us get those by taking them from state-issued vaccinations."

This was the first year that BC held what was to be handled as a "full-scale drill," and traffic was backed up and down Mt. Vernon and University avenues.

The Bakersfield Police Department had to turn the intersection lights to "flashing red" due to the traffic 25 minutes into the drill. The BPD helped to direct traffic.

There were 150 volunteers present, 90 of whom were BC students. Originally, they were prepared to have five lanes open. They had seven open by mid-drill.

The drive-through was sectioned off into different areas, starting with

forms and questionnaires that were provided to participants and ending with an observation area, where people who were getting the vaccination for the first time were watched for 20 minutes to ensure that they didn't have any allergic reactions.

Hall Ambulance was present for "basic life support," according to Chiang.

The Bakersfield Fire Department was there to assist in anything that may be "beyond life support."

Myriad organizations were present to help with the event, including Homeland Security, Cal State University, Bakersfield, Kern Medical Reserve Corps and the County of Kern.

Pepsi donated water for the volunteers, and the BC Foundation provided them with snacks.

William Hadrian, whose son is a BC student, received a vaccination. "It's been fast," he said. "I'm going to Mexico for six or seven years, so I decided to get this done before I go."

Conrad Nieto, a BC psychology major, said that even though someone cut him off in line, he had a "very good experience."

Prior to the event, Nieto had announced the event in a class of his and was upset that fellow students scoffed at the idea of a drive-through vaccination clinic. "They didn't trust BC - it's our school!"

Nieto's sister, Tanya Nieto, joined him in getting the flu vaccine.

"It was very well organized," she said. "The people were hospitable, and I am thankful for it because it's like a provision from God. We didn't have to wait long; it was only about 30-40 minutes, but it was well worth the wait considering the health risks."

BC participates in Women's Conference via live web cast

By MARYANN KOPP
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Rip staff writer

Bakersfield College was one of seven universities in California picked to air the 2008 Women's Conference via live web stream in the Fireside Room Oct. 22.

Held in Long Beach, the convention spanned many hours and had prominent figures such as Maria Shriver, Condoleezza Rice, Christiane Amanpour and Jennifer Lopez as speakers and panel members.

Jack Hernandez, director of the Levan Center for the Humanities, was present to help moderate a local panel, which consisted of foreign language professor Maritza Carlisle and Shereh Rahman, BC's counsel- or for international students. The two spoke between panel discussions of the conference that was aired. They discussed the panel discussion titled, "It's Your Voice - How You Can Use It To Change The World" and included their personal experiences.

While Carlisle said it took her 10 years just to get her brothers to help her out with chores, Rahman said that she came from Iran, which is a place where "is a lot of misinformation" regarding "the treatment of women."

"Women are highly educated," Rahman said. "Both my father and mother were teachers. We do value women and education."

BC had only two weeks to prepare for the event, Hernandez said. "The panels are very good, and it's exciting to be a part of this, especially since it's the first year the conference is being web casted. It can be a very stimulating event for faculty, students and staff."

BC president Greg Chamberlain was in attendance and said that he looked forward to future years where more campuses will be able to participate and hopes that BC will "have more time to plan and promote" the event, which sold out in four hours.

Maria Shriver had contacted the chancellor for the state community

colleges, Diane Woodruff, to choose seven different colleges in the system to stream the event in order to make it more accessible, Chamberlain said.

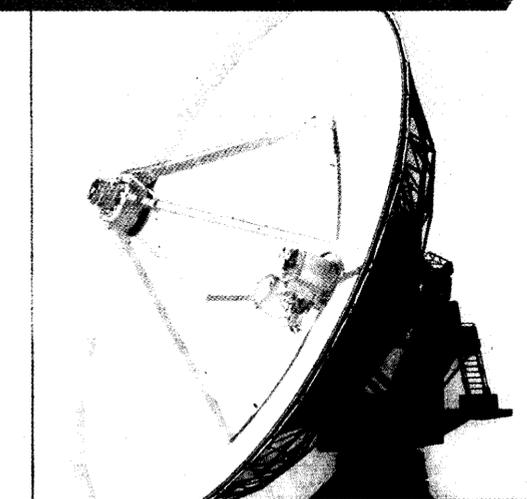
Tracy Lovelace, an educational media design specialist at BC, thought that the CNN reporter, Christiane Amanpour, had a "very incredible, uplifting" talk about her experience in journalism. Amanpour hosted the discussion panel mentioned above.

Ann Wiederrecht, BC professor of history, said that she had encouraged her students to attend once she found out the event was taking place.

"I think it's important to focus on the voices of women," Wiederrecht said. "It's important to offer students the chance to hear the voices of international women."

While not too many students were present in the Fireside Room during the afternoon discussions, if BC is chosen to show the convention again next year, many involved are confident that, if provided with more notice, it can become a positive, stimulating event for all who attend.

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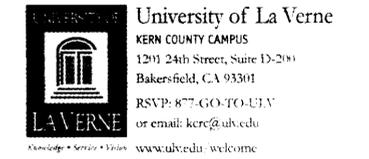
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FEATURES

Music bonds people; Senses Fail singer 'loves' fans

BY LEIA MINCH
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Rip staff writer

In a room no bigger than two dorms smashed together, people packed themselves tighter than anchovies in a can. Adrenaline pumping, they pushed each other around and screamed at the top of their lungs. All for the love of music.

Tuesday, Oct. 28, at the Bakersfield Dome, Senses Fail, Dance Gavin Dance, Sky Eats Airplane and Foxy Shazam put on a show that rocked fans.

The tiny venue couldn't stop fans from pouring into the hot, humid and overly crowded room. Music, for these fans, is much more than something listened to when driving or working out. It's a way of life.

But what is it about this music that brings so many people together?

Senses Fail fan Alexandria Dent said, "The music bonds us together. We all have our differences, but the second you enter the hardcore scene, all of life's problems get left at the entrance. We don't care anymore. We just want to rock to the lyrics and the beat that make us who we are."

Lead singer of Senses Fail, James "Buddy" Nielsen gets that. Even after his success, he knows what it's like to be a fan and to live for the music. "I love playing my music, and I love my fans. They're the best."

The S17 show makes 37 stops on their tour from coast to coast.

Nielsen's favorite thing about touring is the show itself, and though he doesn't have a favorite song to sing, he enjoys singing anything that his fans want to hear.

"It's all about the fans. I guarantee you: If we were only concerned about making money, we wouldn't be showing in Bakersfield. But it's not. I know when other bands make it big, they raise their ticket prices, but we'd rather not. Man, I wish that the tickets could be like ten bucks, but making music is my profession. I have to make a living." Nielsen, now 24, has been writing and performing since he was 17. He thinks that his music has grown and matured since. "When you grow older, you care about different shit. You can move on musically from what you were and had done. You grow from being 17 and hating everything."

According to Nielsen, "Life is Not a Waiting Room," Senses Fail's newest album is just as good, if not better than the previous two. "You can listen to it for a long time. It's like going on a journey from beginning to end. Its coherent and was done very well."

The song that means the most to him, however, is "Still Searching," from the "Still Searching" album. He said that the song, for him, is very autobiographical and "pretty much summed up that record."

And as for the music scene being a part of his life, "I'm glad that so many people can relate to our lyrics and embrace themselves in our music. I hope our fans keep their uniqueness. I love what I do; I wouldn't trade it for anything in the world."



PHOTOS BY JOHN ORNELAS / THE RIP

Top: Senses Fail, the New Jersey based band performed at the Bakersfield Dome on Oct. 28th. The concert was part of a 37 stop tour promoting Senses Fail's newest Album, "Life is Not a Waiting Room." Bottom Left: James "Buddy" Nielsen is pulled in all directions by fans. Top Right: By the end of the concert the small stage at the Bakersfield Dome was worse than a sauna. Bottom Right: Nielsen sings to his fans. "I love playing my music and I love my fans," he said. Opening acts included Dance Gavin Dance, Sky Eats Airplane and Foxy Shazam.

Hundreds attend free country concert at The Park at Riverwalk

By ELKA WYATT
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Rip staff writer

On Saturday, Oct 25, at BrightHouse Networks Amphitheatre at The Park at Riverwalk, hundreds of people attended a free concert featuring country music recording artist Trent Tomlinson.

Opening up for Tomlinson were the Swamp Coolers, a local rock band with a bluesy feel. They performed songs such as "She Don't Love Me," and "She Loves My Automobile," by ZZ Top.

Tomlinson, 33, is known in the country music industry as a songwriter both for himself and other artists such as Emerson Drive, Sara Evans and even George Strait. He is also known as a performer with hits such as "One Wing in the Fire," "She Just Might Have Her Radio On" and "The Bottle."

Tomlinson performed several songs from his previous album, "Country Is My Rock," as well as selections from his upcoming album.

One song he debuted from his soon-to-be released album was written for his 9-month-old daughter, called "Gus-Like Me." Another

song deals with how life used to be before the Pledge of Allegiance was taken out of schools and when sometimes a good old-fashioned whoopin' was sometimes what a kid needed.

"That's The Way It Still Ought To Be," Tomlinson said, "I better stop there before I pull a Dixie Chick and ruin my career."

The crowd was surprised when, during "Putting Country Back on the Map," a new song, Tomlinson jumped over the metal railing and met fans straight on, walking through the audience, stepping on chairs and even going clear up to the grass on the hill, where concertgoers were sitting on blankets.

Tomlinson once again took the stage and shouted, "If you don't like this next guy, you can kiss my ass!" The band then broke into "Folsom Prison Blues," written by the late Johnny Cash.

After the concert, Tomlinson and his band members met with those fans, taking pictures with them and signing autographs. Then Tomlinson sat on the merchandise table and signed autographs on pictures and t-shirts for fans.

Tina Joyner, 43, attending the concert said, "He was awesome; the show was awesome!"

"Are there any country boys left here in Bakersfield?" asked Tomlinson. The crowd responded with an-

other loud cheer as the opening notes of "A Country Boy Can Survive" by Hank Williams, Jr. was played. The audience sang along, old and young alike.

"Everyone knows the words to that song," said John Lowell, 40. "If you don't know the words, you just ain't American."

Tomlinson left the stage, and the guitarist and bass player encouraged the audience to make as much noise as they could so Tomlinson would come back out. Tomlinson then ran out with a white "Flying V" electric guitar and ended the show with his signature song, "Country Is My Rock."

Sitting in a reserved section were fan club members with "meet and greet" passes.

After the concert, Tomlinson and his band members met with those fans, taking pictures with them and signing autographs. Then Tomlinson sat on the merchandise table and signed autographs on pictures and t-shirts for fans.

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Annual Kern Business and Technology Expo brings in 141 different businesses

By JOHNE W. BURCH, IV
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Rip staff writer

The 18th Annual Kern Business and Technology Expo took place on Oct. 28 at the Rabobank Convention Center. The event, presented by the Greater Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce, had 141 different businesses showcasing and networking their products and services.

Sponsored by San Joaquin Bank, Jim Burke Ford and Bright House Networks, the event gave businesses the opportunity to showcase and display their products and services.

Among the businesses that had booths were Kern Schools Credit Union, Bakersfield Magazine, The Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce, Castle Print and Publications, Banks Pest Control and Costco Wholesale to only name a few. Row upon row of big corporations and businesses filled the convention center at Kern County's largest business showcase. Among the bigger businesses were a few smaller establishments. Two such businesses at the expo were Party Time Celebration Specialists and Fresh & Green, a business specializing "green" products.

"This is our first year at the expo," Sasha Windes,

who co-founded Fresh & Green with business partner, Jennifer Jordan, said. "We're hoping to bring awareness of our store and let people know that there is an informational source for 'going green' in town."

Fresh & Green was established approximately one and half years ago, starting solely as an online shopping experience. In June 2008, Fresh & Green opened its first retail store.

"We thought that Bakersfield was ready, and we really wanted to help people in Bakersfield go green," Windes said. "I've lived in Bakersfield my whole life, and I plan on living here a lot longer."

This year's Business and Technology Expo was also the first for Party Time Celebration Specialists. Established about six years ago, Party Time founder/owner Kathy Roemlich has done decorations for previous Business and Technology expos for the Greater Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce.

"I'm hoping to get exposure to people who don't know what I do," Roemlich said. "And to bring remembrance to people's mind about our services."

Patrons of this year's Business and Technology expo were catered to by many restaurants. Among the restaurants catering were Famous Dave's Bar-B-Que, Tahoe Joe's, Que Pasa and BJ's Restaurant and Brewery.

"This is our first year at the expo," Sasha Windes,

CAMPUS

New doctor and assistants serve BC students

Students will be seeing mainly doctor's assistants for health issues such as diabetes, asthma, colds, blood pressure problems and stress.

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

The doctor will see you now—when a physician's assistant can't. Bakersfield College's new doctor, William Baker, a Bakersfield doctor with a private practice, has

replaced Dr. Michael Farber. Farber did not return to BC's student health center due to contract problems last spring. Baker teaches a pathophysiology class for BC's nursing program on Monday evenings and before he goes to teach his class reviews the charts made out by physician's assistants, Matt Tate and Molly Waite, who are there on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Tate and Waite are graduates of both BC and Stanford. According to Baker, law requires that a physician must examine at least five percent of any chart made by a

physician's assistant. If either of the two physician's assistants cannot be at the center, Baker will make himself available to examine any health problems. The two assistants can prescribe and distribute medications, said Jo Acosta, department assistant for the center. Both Tate and Waite have their own licenses, and they are both under the license of Baker.

The health problems commonly addressed at the center are infections, colds, asthma, diabetes, blood pressure problems, stress-related problems and other primary care problems, said Baker.

Baker is the director for the thrombosis, hemostasis and special hematology clinic at Kern Medical Center. He is also an associate professor at UCLA. He was a team physician for 30 years with Dr. Romain Clerou.

Baker said student patients without health insurance are often referred to Sagebrush Medical Clinic, which is affiliated with KMC. Some students think this current arrangement is okay. "Outside of school, I see physician's assistants, so I'm used to that," said

Valorie Farquharson, nursing major. "They can't augment the services here, anyway." Some BC students don't approve of the current arrangement, however.

"It's kind of like having to pick a psychiatrist because you can't have the psychiatrist," said Ted Romero, 40, business administration.

"The doctor should be in Monday through Friday," said Janene Wendrick, 22, child development major. "That \$13 fee we pay should go toward the doctor being there every day for us."

Printed schedule obsolete in 2009

By LEIA MINCH
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Rip staff writer

In the spring 2009 semester, the printed schedules, not to be confused with the class catalogue, will no longer be issued.

According to Director of Enrollment Services Sue Vaughn, the academic department made this decision based on the fact that all of the information is available online to students, and that the cost of printing them was an issue.

She is not worried that enrollment will go down because "by the time the schedules are available to students on the campus, they are out of date," she said.

Also, she stated that the informative brochures are widely distributed, and there are other marketing tools that the school uses to let students know when to sign up and what to do.

Vaughn said that the students can

get the schedule several ways now. "Go to the school's home page, and then click on 'class schedule.' The most accurate is the banner web search because it's updated every moment."

Criminal justice major Brooke Gotrick, wasn't even aware that the schedule was even in print. "This is my first semester, and I just registered online. I had no idea that the school even printed a schedule, so this won't even affect me."

Earlier this week, all faculty were invited to workshops where Vaughn taught them how to show the students how to look at the schedule online and register as well.

Vaughn said that things won't be any more or less complicated.

"We get thousands of phone calls a year with people who forgot terms. This just makes it more possible for more people in more places, and although I am not particularly in favor of this, I am a realist, and financially, this is easier."

2012 plan will address issues

By ELIZABETH MEEKS
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Rip staff writer

The Bakersfield College plan known as Renegade 2012 is now referred to as Action 2012.

BC is on a mission to ensure students have every opportunity for success by maintaining focus on the future.

The Renegade 2012 plan was designed by an administrative committee in order to set a model for how things should be, as well as designed so BC could maintain accreditation. "This is something we had to do to keep our accreditation," said John Gerhold, music professor and president of the Academic Senate.

Now that the outline of standards has been completed, it is time to put the plan into action, hence the new name: Action 2012.

There are seven strategic initiatives each waiting to be addressed. They include student excellence, communication, oversight and accountability, fiscal responsibility, facilities, image and linkages.

Each will be headed up individually by a dean who will meet with the steering committee to discuss which initiative will be highlighted and put into action first. Gerhold wants students to understand that things take time, and they are working hard to see that the initiatives are implemented.

"We are making progress," said Gerhold. Gerhold also encourages students to speak out if they have any concerns, ideas or solutions to problems regarding BC.

Students should either contact the Student Government Association or contact the BC president, Greg Chamberlain, via e-mail to make their voices heard.

"Now is the time for students to voice their opinions while we are getting ready to put the plan into action," said Gerhold.

"Now is the time for students to voice their opinions while we are getting ready..."

—John Gerhold, president of Academic Senate

BC Jazz Ensemble thrills many



Photos by Cara Jackson/The Rip

Above: Dorian Tanguna plays the alto saxophone at the Fall Concert hosted by the BC Jazz Ensemble at the Indoor Theatre on Oct. 25. The band played nine songs.

Right: The BC Jazz Ensemble, directed by Kris Tiner, plays their first session of the night which featured five songs. The band will also perform in the BC Fireside Room on Dec. 4, which will feature new student compositions, starting at 8 p.m.



Homecoming suffers some cancellations

By KELLY ARDIS
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Rip staff writer

School pride and excitement were in the air the week of Oct. 21 for Bakersfield College's Homecoming week, which concluded with the football game on Saturday, Oct. 25. The week's events included movie screenings and band performances. Some of the events that the Student Government Association had planned were called off due to lack of participation.

"There were a couple things we had to cancel. There wasn't enough participation," said SGA President Lynne Mugema. "But we made do with what we had."

One of the events that was cancelled was a campus contest, which

would include a tug-of-war game. With the lack of participation, Mugema said the game "would not have been very fulfilling." The contest was one of the last events to be planned, and Mugema said with a bit more time it would have worked out.

An event that did work out was the movie screenings held on campus. Mugema said that they did not keep track of how many students went to the screenings.

"The idea was just that when students had time, they could come in and watch a movie," she said.

At the game, Mugema was still a bit too busy with the week's events to decide how successful this year's Homecoming was.

"I hear it went really well," she said. "But when you're at the center of the storm, it's hard to tell. Overall, I'm happy with how it turned out."

Mildred Lovato, a BC vice president and school president Greg Chamberlain. They were followed by BC alumni cheerleaders.

Next around the track were trucks decorated by BC clubs, including ones by the Agriculture Club, the Medical Club, and the Geology Club. The participating Agriculture Club members wore pig masks for their "Hoggywood" truck. The Medical Club truck was called "Franken-Med," keeping with both the Homecoming movie theme and the Halloween spirit. The Geology Club encouraged recycling with their truck.

Finally, the nominees for Homecoming King and Queen were taken around the track. The nominees for King were Elliot Blakslee, Greg Snider, Jaffar Agha and Gerrit Otten

and the nominees for Queen were Janene Wendrick, Nicole Romo, Seggan Moore, and Danae Darron. Lovato announced that the King and Queen were Otten and Darron.

"It's an honor to be the king," said Otten. Darron said that they both campaigned for each other, and that she would not have won without all the support she received.

At the game, Mugema was still a bit too busy with the week's events to decide how successful this year's Homecoming was.

"I hear it went really well," she said. "But when you're at the center of the storm, it's hard to tell. Overall, I'm happy with how it turned out."

New York Times newspaper returns to BC

By KATHERINE J. WHITE
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Copy editor

Bakersfield College students will soon see the New York Times and the Financial Times back on stands around campus this semester.

Lynne Mugema, SGA president, said that it's a sure thing the NY Times will be back at BC. SGA just has to place an order, she said. The order for the NY Times will be about \$800 for two to three months, and it will cost about \$300 for the Financial Times for two to three months.

Once a distribution plan is worked out among

BC clubs, the order will go out. The paper will be on stands Monday through Thursday, Mugema said.

SGA had contacted the Wall Street Journal as well as the Washington Times about placing an order for papers, but they received no reply. The NY Times, however, replied to a request. That is because the NY Times has an education department that works in conjunction with colleges and universities, Mugema said. NY Times offered the best deal, she said. CSU B currently receives the NY Times.

Many newspapers are written for people with a sixth-grade level of education. I imagine a lot of BC students will be saying: 'It's about time!'" she said.

Many BC students concur: "The students will be better informed with that newspaper," said Esther Ibarra, 18, psychology major. Jennifer Long, 46, psychology, said that it will be good for the BC student population to receive the NY Times, providing the students here understand the high caliber of that paper's writing.

"It'll be good: It's a bigger newspaper than the Californian," said Alena Reagan, 18, biology major.

THE PLUG

Bakersfield knows how to Rock

One man makes music

By JOHNIE W. BURCH, IV
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Rip staff writer

Local band The Silence Club is the brainchild of one person, Aaron Novak. Driven by the desire to make music, Novak steadily began taking on the role of songwriter, composer and producer throughout the evolution of the band.

"It all started with me messing around with recording programs," Novak said. "I didn't have any musician friends at the time, so I just ended up having to do all the different parts myself."

The music of The Silence Club can be described as "poppy and dark, brooding tones...with hushed vocals and intimate lyrics." Taking inspiration from his life experiences, Novak uses influences from various cultural sounds such as Latin, Reggae and Americana to tell a story to those

who are willing to listen. "Most of my songs come from things I see going on around me," Novak said. "The songs 'El Coyote' and 'The Ember Lights of Mexico' are about adventures in Mexico, whereas the song 'The Paratrooper' is about Jimmy (a homeless man) who plays the flute downtown."

Although Novak writes, composes and produces all of the material for The Silence Club, he enlists a group of fellow musicians to perform live with him.

The Silence Club's live band is Steve Wilson on keyboards, Mark Powell on Bass and Dave Butler and



ALEJANDRO MONTANO / THE RIP

Mary Bennett on drums. Each member of The Silence Club's live show, Novak included, plays with local reggae singer O.P. Stylee.

"Right now, I am a one-man band with a live show," Novak said. "Eventually, I would like to be a lot of different people with a lot of different input in the music."

As of the present, The Silence Club has been making itself known in the local music scene. Playing numerous venues in the Downtown Bakersfield district such as, The Silver Fox, The Mint, Dagney's Coffee Shop, Narducci's Cafe, Jerry's Pizza and more, as well as the Rosedale

area, namely at Rockstar Party Bar on Meany Avenue every Wednesday with O.P. Stylee.

"My favorite venue to play is, by far, The Silver Fox," Novak said. "It is a small and intimate atmosphere. Friends are always there, and it is where I met my fiancé."

The audience's positive response to the music of The Silence Club suggests that Aaron Novak is doing something right and something that listeners can enjoy.

"It is very encouraging to see people enjoying the music and dancing," Novak said. "It is very reassuring and justifying."



ALEJANDRO MONTANO / THE RIP

Acknowledge Your Sympathy from left to right: Willy Orantes (guitar, vocals), Michael Aguilar (bass, vocals), and Mason Sizemore (guitar, vocals).

Band takes music on the road

By ANDREW J. ANSOLABEHRE
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Rip staff writer

Playing in a band in high school is something that many people experience. Meeting up to play bad cover songs and poorly written originals in a dirty garage or a guest bedroom is a pretty great experience.

A small number of these groups, after a few years, find a connection and improve enough to go on to play for crowds in real venues. Acknowledge Your Sympathy is one of those bands.

The band first came together five years ago. Band members Michael Aguilar, James Morales, and Willy Orantes had all gone to junior high together and started to play together when Willy's cousin Mason Sizemore moved to town from Los Angeles. For years, they simply got together to jam and mess around, playing a mix of emo and pop rock. They soon started playing shows around town, usually for

free, at places like Jerry's, The Living Room and Studio 99.

The band played their first out of town show Nov. 1 at The Venue in Sanger, which is near Fresno. "It was super simple," said Sizemore. "I would say similar to booking a local show. They're a new venue. We heard they need a band to play, and they put us down."

There is no definite leader of this group. "It's never been one person that we follow," said Sizemore. Aguilar, Morales and Sizemore all take up the vocals from time to time with Aguilar on bass and both Morales and Sizemore on guitar, leaving Orantes on the drums.

Only recently did the band decide to go beyond playing the occasional local show. In April 2008, Acknowledge Your Sympathy decided to record "Make Everything EP" which took them until early October to finish.

Really, Acknowledge Your Sympathy is a group of old friends having fun. Aguilar said, "We're seeing where we can take ourselves. If you work hard enough, your hard work might pay off."

—Michael Aguilar, band member

Acknowledge Your Sympathy plays next on Nov. 6 at Winterfest 08 at the Dome. Hawthorne Heights will be the headlining event. After that, the band is off to Fresno for Fest Fest 599 at The Exit on Dec. 27.

The band is only in the beginning stages of making a name for themselves. "We're not sure how to go about getting manufactured and published. We sell burned copies at our shows but that's about it."

Getting into the major music industry is not really on their agenda. "That's like dreamin' too big," said Aguilar. "I think 'making it' for us would be to find a little indie label. Planning our own tour and showing that we can do it, that would be 'making it.'"

"We'd like to hit up the colleges in California," said Sizemore. The band also hopes to start playing shows in western states like Nevada and Arizona. To be able to play with a big label band is not something that Aguilar thinks will happen soon but still hopes for. "I'd play with Parallax, try to get that girl to fall in love with me," joked Aguilar.

Really, Acknowledge Your Sympathy is a group of old friends having fun. Aguilar said, "We're seeing where we can take ourselves. If you work hard enough, your hard work might pay off."

Really, Acknowledge Your Sympathy is a group of old friends having fun. Aguilar said, "We're seeing where we can take ourselves. If you work hard enough, your hard work might pay off."

Local band mixes genres

By GABINO VEGA-ROSARIO
gvega@bakersfieldcollege.edu
Online editor

Velorio's first full-length album is expected to come out early 2009 and is going to appeal to fans of all genres and experimental music. Velorio, which means "to awake," is a six-member local band composed of Alvaro Caceres, Ben Gomez, Eric Powers, Alex Lopez, Jorge Urbina and new member Jonathan Weinmann.

The members do not have a set instrument. During shows, each member usually switches around instruments with one another. Bongos, congas, keyboards, tambourine, guitar, bass and maracas are interchanged to add a new performance visual.

About two years ago, Caceres and Gomez wrote and released an EP, which contained four songs. "The EP was more of a resume to get more people in to the band," said Caceres.

The band has been working on their full-length album for about a year. Powers mentioned, "The album has to be worthy of international attention that's why we are working so hard on it." The recording will be held in Los Angeles and after the new release there is a guarantee of four dates around California. "We are planning on touring Washington, Oregon and maybe Texas. We would love to go to the east coast," said Caceres.

Velorio does not have a specific genre they like to call themselves, but if they were to choose a genre, they would label themselves as world-pop-multicultural. "We really hate answering that question because we use different genres," said Powers. Some genres Velorio tend to use involve jazz, pop, cumbia, soul and salsa.

On Oct. 26, Velorio performed at the Empty Space Theatre, which included a new song and some jokes by the band members.

The original version of "Hijo del Sor" has an acoustic opening, but during this live performance, the band started off with a simple drum and guitar beat. Singing the lyrics in Spanish, audience members sang along. As the upbeat song progressed, there was an untraceable transaction that turned into a rhythm and blues beat.

The transaction continued as the members began to move around while keeping the whole song in beat. A strong use of Latin percussions was used and the bassist slapped his bass to add an extra drum beat. The flow continued ending with the song



ALEJANDRO MONTANO / THE RIP

Above: Mark Powell plays bass alongside Aaron Novak at the Rockstar Party Bar on Meany Avenue Wed. Oct. 29th 2008. Above left: The Silence Club's Aaron Novak, vocals and guitar, plays at the Rockstar Party Bar.



ALLY ARMSTRONG / THE RIP

Alvaro Caceres of Velorio sings and plays guitar during their concert at the Empty Space Theatre on Oct. 26.

"Cumbia del Marjuano," which had a more cumbia-based beat. While writing music, Velorio has no set composer. The band has been writing the writing process an easy objective, according to Alex Lopez.

"We all have different types of music influence," said Caceres. "Music is like a language, because we can speak it and we all have different dialects."

Originally, there were seven members, but because of family issues, two members were dropped and Weinmann filled in the drumming position. "We had to step it up," said Lopez. "We had to stretch out as a band. We kept getting better and better at this; this has brought the best out of us."

The band has had to deal with money, family and relationship complications. "Everybody has a job and a family, but we spend a lot of time together as a band," said Powers. The members still plan on touring, show their music to the world, and face the sacrifice. "It's all worth it; no question about it," said Lopez. "We decided to do this."

For more information about the band, visit Veloriorock.com or YouTube.com. Velorio also has their music in ring tones by Verizon.

OPINION

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Unsafe chips are still used

Editor: Today we live in a society that has just reached the climax of the "digital age." Gadgets and computer chips control our modern world, and misinformed citizens are becoming victims of this digital revolution. Government-operated facilities are now requiring employees to receive an R.F.I.D. chip, also known as a radio frequency identification device. Do we, the people, really want to be subjected to this infringement of rights, and what is the real story and dangers behind the R.F.I.D. technology?

Imagine all of your information, including your name, address, date of birth and finances, being crammed into a device that the information can be easily retrieved with a special scanner. Identity thieves would have an easy time accessing all important data on an individual, as well as robbing him or her blind.

Before the R.F.I.D. chip was introduced to the market for humans, it was tested on animals by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Dr. Keith Johnson was the lead toxicologist for the experiment and review in 2002, and he stated, "Chip implants had induced malignant tumors in lab mice and rats" and proved the R.F.I.D. "not safe for humans." But the FDA refused to publish his findings, and the R.F.I.D. was still brought to the market.

The Book of Revelations, in the modern canonized holy Bible, gives us some disturbing descriptions of the R.F.I.D. Revelations 13:16-17 states, "He [the Beast] causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads. And that no one may buy or sell except the ones who have the mark or the name of the Beast written within their foreheads." Is this chilling verse referring to the R.F.I.D.?

Are misinforming people becoming the bunt of a much bigger plan, such as "living revelations" or possibly "martial law"? If this continues, then we are sure to find out soon.

Daniel Castaneda
BC student

Cashiers ask that you get off your cell

Although customers may only see them for a minute, cashiers deserve enough respect for shoppers to get off their phone when at the register.

By SEGGAN MOORE
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Rip staff writer

Working in retail, you see many diverse people come through. Parents who let their kids scream bloody murder over a candy bar, old folks who come to get their prescriptions and four boxes of Kleenex to go with it, and, of course, the younger crowd who do everything in their power to impress the blonde working at the register. People who come through my line all get the same treatment: "Hi! How are you today? Did you find everything alright?" Sometimes I try to make small talk. Other times I buzz them through the line so they can go on their way. But let me tell you about one of the most obnoxious situations I am faced with daily.

Cell phones have become a part of everyone's daily routines. Whether it's texting, checking your e-mail, or simply placing a phone call, it's not uncommon to see people on cell phones have also become one of my pet peeves.

It's the people who come through my line with their cell phones that puts me over the edge. I have a likeable personality, and I always have a smile on my face. But when a customer comes to my register with his or her phone surgically attached to the ears, and he or she doesn't acknowledge that I exist, my customer service skyrockets. Not only do I greet them with my typical saying, but I continue to ask them questions, such as these: "Would you like that double bagged? Did you need stamps for your cards? Would you like cash back?" Of course they probably think that I am trying to be annoying by asking all these questions, but as Stephanie Tanner from the television show "Full House" used to say, "How rude!"

I understand that you're trying to take care of business, be on your way or make a quick phone call. But that doesn't give you power to completely diss the cashier who is not only being nice but is working her butt off to make sure that you, the rude customer, is satisfied.

Don't feel bad for me. I'm just your typical college student



AMANDA SPICKENREUTHER THE RIP

who is trying to make the car payment. People need to remember their manners. It's rude to talk to someone else while on the phone, but it is absolutely infuriating to ignore someone

who is trying to get you out just as fast as you want to leave! It's called customer service. Come through my line, and maybe you'll think twice about ignoring your next cashier.

Politics a fashion statement among youth

Celebrities have used their fame for the good by helping the youth of America to care about this year's presidential race.

By BIANCA HERNANDEZ
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Features editor

As much as it pains me to say it, I have to admit I like the fact that celebrities have made voting fashionable. Yes, I appreciate celebrities using their status to promote a good cause, even though in my opinion they get paid way too much, but that's another article.

What I want to focus on is the fact that I can't walk into any of my classes without seeing some sort of shirt advertising a candidate. I love it. I love that not only has voting become a fashion statement, but more importantly, it has become fashionable in the younger generations.

For years, I've heard that the younger voting generation is lazy. We don't vote because we don't care. Therefore, our votes haven't meant much to special interest groups or politicians.

This year, it has been made clear that the college-age generation isn't going to sit idly by for this election. Young voters have been showing up to democratic and republican rallies, and volunteering in greater numbers than before. Celebrities like Scarlett Johansson and Oprah

Winfrey have openly pledged their support for Barack Obama, while Arnold Schwarzenegger and Tom Selleck are standing by John McCain. Obama definitely has the upper hand when it comes to big name celebrity endorsements. I'm not sure how much of an impact these endorsements will have in persuading people to vote considering most celebrities don't have a background in politics, but I'm sure there are many people out there who will vote based solely on who their favorite celebrity is supporting.

Another trend I've noticed is an epidemic of shirts emblazoned with Obama's face. As a fervid Obama supporter, it warms my heart to see so many people proudly showing their support for Obama. I wouldn't be as excited to see a

McCaIn shirt, but I would still appreciate that it is someone's political statement.

I know it's a wishful thinking to hope that everyone who wears a politically affiliated shirt or button will be aware of the issues and candidate platforms. I've seen elementary-age children walking down the street in Obama shirts, which I hope means their family is involved in the election and talking to their kids about it.

I hope that the people who have been wearing the shirts and buttons actually show up to vote and haven't just been wearing the clothes to fit in. It will be interesting to see whether or not this political fad will last. I doubt it'll last past November, but I hope it makes a comeback for a future election.

Troubled mothers must seek support to save their children

By ELIZABETH MEEKS
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Rip staff writer

It is tragic when murder is committed, and it is more unfathomable when mothers lose all concepts of reality and take the lives of their own flesh and blood... their children.

Many of us recall the sad story of Andrea Yates, who drowned her children in a bathtub, or you may be following the current story of missing Caylee Anthony, who was not reported missing until after 21 days and is still missing today. There are cases involving children who faced death through burning, hangings, decapitation, suffocation, poisoning and being stoned to death, all by the hands of the mother.

It is a misconception that the leading cause of infant mortality is AIDS or abductions. According to a study by the American Anthropological Association, homicides exceed more than 200 per year in the U.S., and many involve women killing their babies.

My breath is taken away when I hear or read stories of these innocent children being violently killed by the person who is supposed to nurture, love and protect them. It makes me ask this: "Why?" Why would a mother, a woman, be compelled to go against the most prominent of instincts? It is the instinct of caring for one's own young. How could she do such an unspeakable act?

My thought is they are either mentally ill or so clinically depressed they are unable to reach out for help. Perhaps they are embarrased by the fact that they are having difficulties handling motherhood. Something is biologically wrong within them and due to either being left undiagnosed or misdiagnosed, they see no way out other than murder.

Perhaps there is more. Perhaps they don't have any mental illness and the stresses of life aren't spinning out of control. Perhaps they feel completely isolated.

Motherhood is the toughest job anyone could ever do. The day-to-day requirements of parenting can be overwhelming, exhausting and isolating. Yet, as women, we feel we must never speak about how sad we sometimes feel about the enormous responsibility accompanying parenthood.

The majority of women feel they must always be on top of the game, that they have it

all together, and there is nothing better than being a mom. Perhaps the lack of acknowledgement of depression only feeds the isolation these women feel. I do not doubt they love their children and as a mother you just do, at least on some level. Our society has become so consumed with an image of perfection: an image of the perfect soccer mom, employee or employer and perfect homemaker.

Those who do not feel they fit inside the mold seem to snap, and the cost is innocent children. There has to be a way for women to seek help without feeling the shame of wishing for just one day that they didn't have children.

Many women need to be given the permission to have moments of not wanting the

responsibilities of motherhood, even for just a moment when there was complete chaos. Many women remember when they could go to the bathroom by themselves, and their boots pointed north, and they could let it out that they didn't like being mothers.

Even though you knew you were stressed, and that moment would pass, you were able to voice it. I feel that if in that moment women could let it out, scream it from the rooftop if need be, then they would let it go and be able to relax into the joy and triumphs of motherhood instead of allowing it to fester like cancer eating away at the fiber of the soul. As we have seen far too many times, the end result is a needless, senseless murder that will be regretted forever.

'GADE FEEDBACK

Compiled by Alejandro Montano / The Rip

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THE RENEGADE RIP

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Letters should not exceed 300 words, must be accompanied by a signature and the letter writer's identity must be verified with a photo ID. The Rip reserves the right to edit letters, however, writers will be given the opportunity to revise lengthy or unacceptable submissions.

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

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BC BRAINS

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Joseph Korin, engineering: "Something unlikely to happen."

REVIEWS

Just as fast but twice as good

By LEIA MINCH
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Rip staff writer

How do I love food? Let me count the ways. I love the consumption of food and the flavors that enter my mouth after the first bite. I love the smells of food and the satisfaction felt after an amazing meal. I also love going out to eat and experiencing different types of food and new restaurants.

RESTAURANT REVIEW

★★★★★

Unfortunately, I am the stereotypical poor college student. So my chances to actually experience good food are limited.

But I have found the answer, and it is my messiah to fast-food restaurants: Farmer Boys located on Columbus and Haley is exactly what every poor or rich college student is looking for.

Despite the fact that Farmer Boys has a drive-thru, the inside environment is not even comparable to other fast-food joints. After walking inside, I didn't feel like I was in a fast-food restaurant. The setting was homely and decorated like a real country kitchen. The room was brightly painted, and the booths were clothed. Along the walls were shelves containing different trinkets, signs, plates and random ceramic animals. Although the place was busy, it was still quiet enough to study in.

The environment alone almost had me sold. Even the menu itself surprised me. It ranged from breakfast to dinner and consisted of breakfast plates, salads, sandwiches, hamburgers, fish, chicken and sides galore. Still, I was skeptical. The pictures of the food looked good, but then again, just about every fast-food place makes the food look so much better in the advertising campaigns than it actually looks in real life.

I ordered the bacon fries melt with a side of chili cheese turkey and



ALLY ARMSTRONG / THE RIP

The newest Farmer Boy's location on Haley Street offers large portions of delicious food that offers a nice alternative to typical fast food.

my partner ordered a double cheese-burger with regular fries.

After my first bite, I was sold. The sandwich was so delicious that I couldn't stop eating it, even after I was full. My partner enjoyed his burger as well, saying it was really, really good. After I said to him,

"This place is kind of like Denny's," he replied, "It's so much better and cheaper!"

The service was fast as well. That night we were in a bit of a rush to get somewhere, but our food was brought in a timely and prompt fashion. I had an excellent experience with

Farmer Boys restaurant. It had a charming atmosphere as well as the delicious food of a sit-down restaurant while maintaining the speed and price of the average fast-food eatery. My advice? If you haven't been there yet, you definitely need to try it.

Kevin Smith strikes again

By KELLY ARDIS
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Rip staff writer

Just when I thought I could not love Seth Rogen any more than I already did after this summer's "Pineapple Express," his new movie "Zack and Miri Make a Porno" proved me wrong. Directed and written by Kevin Smith, who's responsible for such hits as "Clerks" and "Mallrats" (as well as the flop "Jersey Girl"), "Zack and Miri Make a Porno" is not exactly what you'd think it was about based on the title.

MOVIE REVIEW

★★★★★

Zack (Rogen) and Miri (Elizabeth Banks) are two best friends who live together and struggle to pay their bills. After attending their 10-year high school reunion and finding out that one of their classmates is making a decent living working in the pornography industry, the two decide to try it themselves.

What ensues is a hilarious, raunchy, and, at times, awkward and sweet story. Zack and Miri have to deal with what happens when two best friends have sex and how, despite promises otherwise, it changes them and complicates their relationship.

That a movie about making a dirty movie can be sweet shows just how unique and original "Zack and Miri Make a Porno" is. It's not about a bunch of pervy homdos looking to objectify women and get paid to have sex with strangers. It's about two friends doing whatever it takes to not get evicted. They put aside their fears and, arguably, their dignity to not let each other down. It is a dirty movie with tons of crude humor, foul language, and nudity, but it's a dirty movie with heart, something that sets it apart from other movies that are dirty just for the sake of being dirty. Its tale of desperation is something anyone can relate to.

While all the acting in the film is great, Rogen makes the movie. His awkward, goofy, everyman portrayal of Zack is what allows the movie to tow the line between dirty and sweet. Upon first seeing a commercial for the movie, I was unsure of how I felt about Banks (who was in "W") and will be in the upcoming "Role Models") playing Miri, but she quickly won me over. Miri couldn't be the average girly girl. She had to be able to hang with the guys to make her friendship with Zack believable, and Banks certainly achieved that.

And what would a Kevin Smith movie be without Jason Mewes? Mewes (who has been in virtually every successful Smith movie) plays Lester, one of the actors in Zack and Miri's porno. As he is in most of his roles, Mewes is endearingly creepy. Also joining Smith for yet another movie together is Jeff Anderson, who plays Deacon, the cameraman.

Another notable, but unfortunately small character is Brandon, played by Justin Long ("Alvin and the Chipmunks," "Waiting"). I feel that no words I can write will do this character justice. He is just so amazing and must be seen for oneself.

"Zack and Miri Make a Porno" is obviously not for people who have problems with profanity and sexuality. The two should be expected with a movie about making a pornographic film. But if viewers can get past that, I'm sure they'll find the movie quite enjoyable. To those with doubts about the movie, I'd say give it a chance. It might surprise you.

Marvel heroes unite in 'Web of Shadows'

Take on an alien race as either Spider-Man or Venom in the latest Marvel Comics game to hit the shelves for Wii.

By GABINO VEGA ROSARIO
gvega@bakfieldcollege.edu
Online editor

An army of alien symbiotes has invaded the city of New York, but, too bad, I have not even gotten through the storyline. "Spider-Man: Web of Shadows" sounds like an interesting game, especially if you have a Wii. The controls are so awesome, I actually feel like I'm swinging like Spider-Man.

On Oct. 21, the game was released, and I was so excited to get it because Venom was going to make an appearance on the game. Venom is one of Spider-Man's archenemies and has an alien symbiote with a host named Eddie Brock.

Starting off the game, you actually have to fight Venom. The first thing that is bad about this game is that the controls are confusing. The Wii Remote has the letters and signs A, B, C, Z, +, -, 1 and 2.

Starting off, I did not know how to jump or swing or fight. I did all the basic skills to beat Venom, but the controlling was really difficult at the beginning.

This game has some pretty good graphics, but I was hoping the intermission movies had some better graphics.

Some interesting features included the many upgraded combos you could gain by experience.

I could also get a choice of different Spider-Man suits like the original suit or the black symbiote suit, which has some different fighting styles.

It's so cool to be fighting and switching costumes. After a while, I was cheering and yelling at the bad guys because the untouchable Spider-Vega owned them!

The controls were the most difficult part to learn. Luke Cage, a member of the Avengers

and crime fighter, needs Spider-Man's help to stop gang wars and drive-bys in New York City. This is a pretty good chapter because these optional missions got me better at swinging and fighting against these thugs.

There was this event called "chain reaction," and you basically have to swing the Wii Remote left or right to shoot a string of web to an opponent.

Once you grab him, you must swing the remote again, and it should jump off the opponent. Spider-Man launches himself into the air, and the process is repeated to hit thug after thug.

I had the most difficulty in this area, and, after a close inspection, I finally beat that mission. I was so happy because it took up a lot of my time just trying to accomplish this. Luke Cage trains Spider-Man to stop all these thugs, and eventually the training is over, and I move on with fighting the Black Cat.

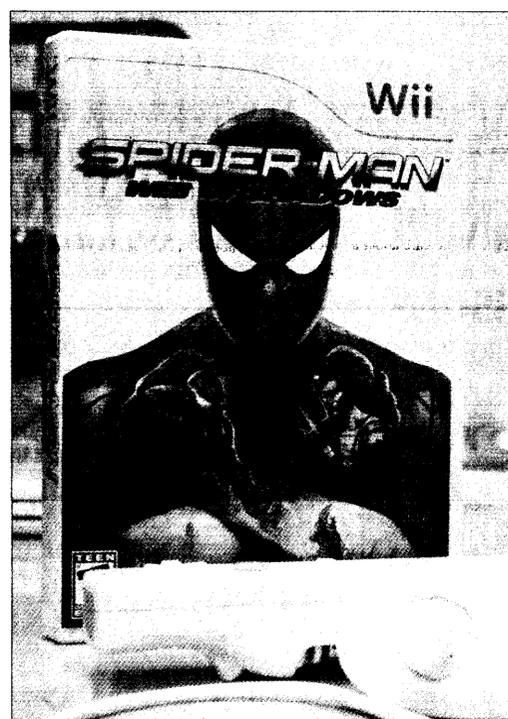
The Black Cat is a girl villain/crime fighter who fights with some hardcore skills. That dumb girl beat me like five times. I finally beat her and moved on by helping out Moon Knight, another crime fighter.

Another annoying part of the game is that when you press 1, the main menu has a very small font and in order to move through the menu you have to press the Z, C, A, or B buttons.

Why couldn't they just use the traditional left or right keys to just navigate? Though this game is hard and takes patience to master, I suggest people should purchase this game. The storyline may take a while to get into, but I think it's all worth it. The fighting style and upgrades are an awesome addition to the game.

In the front cover, you see Spider-Man, Venom and Wolverine, a member of the X-Men. I got very excited to see what Wolverine had to say because in one of the previews, Wolverine had the alien symbiote attached to him.

Throughout the storyline, Spider-Man has a choice to either choose the black suit or the original suit, and, based on this decision, the storyline will develop. I have no idea how the game is going to end, but it should be an interesting turnout because I either join the bad guys or the good guys.



ALLY ARMSTRONG / THE RIP

The new Spider-Man game gives players more options than previous games.

Planetarium's show takes audiences to another world

By ANDREW J. ANSOLABEHERE
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Rip staff writer

Being able to see the entire night sky at 2 p.m. is a surreal experience. The only place this can happen in town is at the Bakersfield College planetarium.

The planetarium's most recent show, "Oasis in Space," not only gives an amazing view of

the constellations but an in-depth look at the planets of our solar system.

The William M. Thomas Planetarium is the largest of its kind in the San Joaquin Valley. Seating 76 people, the planetarium uses a Chronos star simulator to put on its demonstrations. The machine uses light shining through thousands of small holes to accurately recreate the night sky.

Nick Strobel, BC's astronomy professor, gave the presentation and started things off by showing the audience the evening sky just as it is seen. Even the effect of the street lights

and pollution were recreated in this view of the sky.

Strobel then lowered the lights so that we got the same view somebody could get out in the mountains or in the middle of the desert.

This is when he started the first part of the presentation: outlining the major constellations. "If you have a better imagination than me, or you have some really good medications there, you can see the goat with the fish tail," said Strobel as he pointed out the constellation Auriga that sits in the eastern sky.

Strobel then moved to the movement of the

planets. He showed where Venus, Mercury and Jupiter could be seen in the sky for the remainder of the year.

Finally, we got to the feature presentation, "Oasis in Space" shows the conditions of the planets.

It was very impressive visually and simulated the faces of the planets, giving a first person view of the terrain.

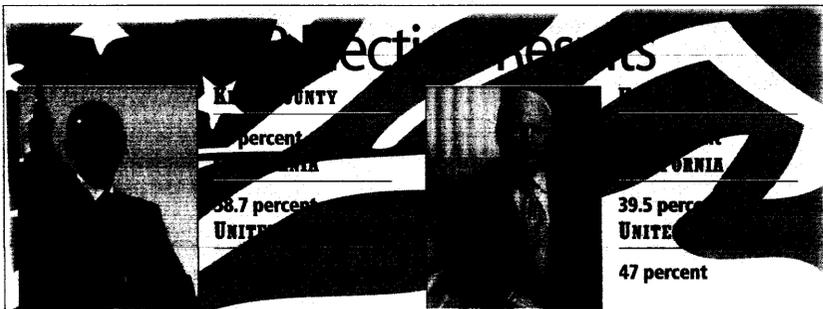
The show lasted just over an hour and was extremely entertaining. Education has never been so fascinating.

BC BRAINS

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NEWS



California State Election Results

- Proposition 1a** High-Speed Rail funding
58.7 percent
 - Proposition 2** Confining of Farm Animals
63 percent
 - Proposition 3** Children's Hospital Bond
Yes, 55 percent
 - Proposition 4** Notification of Abortion
No, 52 percent
 - Proposition 5** Nonviolent Drug Offenses
No, 60 percent
 - Proposition 6** Police Funding Guarantee
No, 69 percent
 - Proposition 7** Renewable Energy
No, 65 percent
 - Proposition 8** Bans Same-Sex Marriage
Yes, 52 percent
 - Proposition 9** Victim's Rights
Yes, 53 percent
 - Proposition 10** Alternative Fuel Sources
No, 60 percent
 - Proposition 11** Redistricting
Yes, 51 percent
 - Proposition 12** Veteran's Bond
Yes, 64 percent
- U.S. Representative 20th - Jim Costa**
U.S. Representative 22nd - Kevin McCarthy
Kern High School District - Chad Vegas, Bill Perry
- Assembly 30th - Danny Gilmore**
Assembly 32nd - Jean Fuller

BC's election reaction mixed

By **BIANCA HERNANDEZ**
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Features editor

The elections are over, the results are in, and people are reacting to the news. Barack Obama will be sworn in as the 44th President of the United States on Jan. 20, 2009.

"I'm not shocked; I'm not surprised," said Shai Rogers, 20, a student at Bakersfield College. "I'm very content, even though I voted for John McCain. If I had it my way, John McCain would be president, and Barack Obama would be VP."

Rogers felt that McCain was stronger in national security, and Obama was stronger in economics. "We are in a war against terror and because of international incidents that have been happening with Russia and North Korea, I voted for McCain," said Rogers.

Though Rogers would have preferred for McCain to win, he believes Obama will do a better job than George W. Bush, especially in the area of foreign policy. "I think it will be a nice transition," said Rogers. "One of our biggest changes would be having a one political party government," said BC political science professor Cornelio Rodriguez. "Having a democratic president and democratic majority of the house and senate is a first."

SGA President Lynne Muegma weighed in on the results. "It's not really unexpected. It feels like any other day," she said. "Yes, it's historical, but there's still work to be done." Muegma, who is African-American,

can, said that it should not matter if Obama is African-American or not, and that the media and people shouldn't have to focus so much on the fact that he is the first African-American president.

She said that there had been African-Americans who had run for office before, but that the fact that it took this long for one to be successful was telling of the progress America has made.

"The real success will be when nobody cares," she said. "I wish there had been more thorough coverage of third parties."

"If this country truly believes that all men are created equal, and we believe in freedom and justice for all, it's about time we showed it," said BC professor Robert Torres, Latin American studies.

"It's time we lived up to the ideals we profess to stand for in this world," said Torres. He felt that this was truly a historical event. "Being part of history came out of this election because of the way the country sits" because of the Bush administration. "The problems we are facing actually inspired people to vote," said Muegma.

"Ultimately, it was the country itself the people are voting for. When the country needed it, people came out to vote."

SPORTS

Back line is strong for women

By **SEGGAN MOORE**
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Rip staff writer

The Bakersfield College women's soccer team is well into the season. With the last regular season games approaching fast, head coach Scott Dameron is taking time to applaud the back line of the team.

Dameron is impressed with the line and the skills that they have shown. Aly Rosales, Amanda Duran, Katie Collins, and Lisa Boothe make up the back line, which has become the team's "unsung key to success," as Dameron calls them.

The vocal communication and rhythm that starts from the back has made the line a strong element of the team.

"There are no stats to record the (defensive) line. It's a thankless job." Two of the team captains, Amanda Duran and Lisa Boothe, are in the



BC's Lisa Boothe (#22) steals the ball from a Santa Monica player on Oct. 24. BC and Santa Monica played to a 1-1 tie.

line and have shown much improvement since last season. With the other returnees, Duran and Boothe have taken their experiences from last year to improve.

Boothe has enjoyed playing with the other ladies and likes the fact that they all get along. She commends Dameron for his coaching and for being a role model for the ladies.

"He knows how the game works. He pushes us the extra mile when we're done going the extra mile. He wants us to succeed as a team."

Duran echoes the thoughts of Boothe and thinks this season is going well.

"It's like a family. Everyone knows each other on and off the field."

Dameron hopes to get into play-offs and "have good scoring and being strong defensively."

The team is now 12-4-3 overall and 7-1-2 in the Western State Conference. Their next game will be on Nov. 7 at home against L.A. Pierce at 3 p.m.

BC golfers earn WSC honors

By **VINCENT PEREZ**
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Rip staff writer

Bakersfield College's Ellen Krause (162) and Katherine James (163) finished second and third at the Western State Conference golf championships Nov. 2-3 in Ventura at the Buenaventura (par 70) and Olivas Park (par 72) golf courses.

Santa Barbara's Asaka Sim finished first, with the low score, a 159 and was named player of the year of the WSC.

BC teammates Debbie Osborn finished with a 176 and Katie Jones finished with a 189.

Krause said about the tournaments, "I didn't play that well, but I played better on the back 9."

Krause and James were also named to the first team all WSC honors. BC finished second as a team, with a 690, with Santa Barbara City

College in first, with a 664. BC finished third overall in WSC standings behind College of the Canyons in second and Santa Barbara in first.

Krause and James will compete individually at the So Cal Regional in Palm Springs Nov. 10-11 at the Desert Dunes Golf Course.

Krause said, "I'm excited and it's nerve-racking, but I know the course pretty well. I'm just going to play it like a regular match."

Men finish fourth in WSC championships

By **VINCENT PEREZ**
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Rip staff writer

Bakersfield College runner Cesar Mireles finished third overall and first for the BC men in the Western State Conference championships at Waller Park in Santa Maria on Oct. 28. Mireles finished with a time of 21 minutes, 44 seconds in the four-mile run.

BC's Eyoaloy Atsbeha finished 10th overall with a time of 22:13 and second for BC, and teammates Eliot Blakslee, Chris Sanchez, Amar Singh, Jose Alvares and Jordan

Points finished in the top 50.

BC's men finished fourth as a team in the four-mile run with a score of 119, and Glendale finished first with a 4.7.

L.A. Valley's Andrew Salg finished first overall with a time of 21:20.

BC's Emilly Leming finished ninth overall and first for the BC women in the women's 5-kilometer (3.1 mile) run. Leming finished with a time of 20:39. BC teammates Lorin Maki, Brenda Serrato Erica Garcia finished in the top 50.

BC's women finished sixth as a team in the 5k, and Glendale also won the women's team score with

a 22. BC's Wendy Trochez was not able to compete due to illness, and BC teammate Melinda Magee was also out with shin splints and a possible stress fracture.

Glendale's Katie Dunn, Justina Sadauskaitė, Angelina Gonzalez, Bridgette Fernandez and Rosa Delatoro finished in the top 10.

Dunn finished first overall and first for Glendale women with a time of 19:14.

The next race for the BC men's and women's cross country teams is the Southern California championships at Kern County Soccer Park on Nov. 7.

SPORTS SCHEDULES

Women's basketball	Men's basketball	Soccer	Volleyball	Football
Nov. 7-9 San Diego Mesa Tournament	Nov. 7-9 Ventura Tournament	Nov. 7 LA Pierce 3 p.m.	Nov. 7 at LA Pierce 7 p.m.	Nov. 8 Bye
Nov. 12 at Reedley 5 p.m.	Nov. 13 Allan Hancock 7 p.m.	Nov. 11 at Canyons 3 p.m.	Nov. 11 Santa Monica 7 p.m.	Nov. 15 Citrus 1 p.m.
Nov. 14-15 Allan Hancock Cross-over	Nov. 14-15 Santa Barbara 5:30 p.m.	Nov. 14 Glendale 3 p.m.	Nov. 14 at Canyons 3 p.m.	Nov. 22 Golden Empire Bowl 3 p.m.
Nov. 19 at Santa Barbara 5:30 p.m.	Nov. 21 Rio Hondo 5 p.m.	Nov. 14 Glendale 3 p.m.	Nov. 18 at Canyons 7 p.m.	Nov. 25 Regional Playoffs Round One
Nov. 21 Rio Hondo 5 p.m.	Nov. 22 COS 5 p.m.	Nov. 17 at West LA 5 p.m.	Nov. 20 West LA TBA	
Nov. 22 COS 5 p.m.	Nov. 25 at Porterville 6 p.m.	Nov. 18 at Glendale 5 p.m.	Nov. 25 Regional Playoffs Round One	
Nov. 25 at Porterville 6 p.m.	Dec. 18-20 Antelope Valley Tournament	Nov. 18 at Glendale 5 p.m.		
Dec. 18-20 Antelope Valley Tournament	Dec. 27-29 Grossmont Tournament	Nov. 18 at Glendale 5 p.m.		
Jan. 3 Pasadena 6 p.m.	Jan. 3 Pasadena 6 p.m.	Nov. 18 at Glendale 5 p.m.		
Jan. 7 Bye	Jan. 7 Bye	Nov. 18 at Glendale 5 p.m.		
Jan. 10 Canyons 7 p.m.	Jan. 10 Canyons 7 p.m.	Nov. 18 at Glendale 5 p.m.		
Jan. 14 at West LA 7 p.m.	Jan. 14 at West LA 7 p.m.	Nov. 18 at Glendale 5 p.m.		
Jan. 17 at LA Valley 7 p.m.	Jan. 17 at LA Valley 7 p.m.	Nov. 18 at Glendale 5 p.m.		
Jan. 21 Santa Monica 7 p.m.	Jan. 21 Santa Monica 7 p.m.	Nov. 18 at Glendale 5 p.m.		
Jan. 24 Glendale 7 p.m.	Jan. 24 Glendale 7 p.m.	Nov. 18 at Glendale 5 p.m.		
Jan. 28 at Citrus 7 p.m.	Jan. 28 at Citrus 7 p.m.	Nov. 18 at Glendale 5 p.m.		
Jan. 31 Bye	Jan. 31 Bye	Nov. 18 at Glendale 5 p.m.		
Feb. 4 at Canyons 7 p.m.	Feb. 4 at Canyons 7 p.m.	Nov. 18 at Glendale 5 p.m.		
Feb. 7 West LA 7 p.m.	Feb. 7 West LA 7 p.m.	Nov. 18 at Glendale 5 p.m.		
Feb. 11 LA Valley 7 p.m.	Feb. 11 LA Valley 7 p.m.	Nov. 18 at Glendale 5 p.m.		
Feb. 14 at Santa Monica 7 p.m.	Feb. 14 at Santa Monica 7 p.m.	Nov. 18 at Glendale 5 p.m.		

GOP: Officials uneasy about change

Continued from Page 1

When asked about what he feels will change during the new presidency, McCarthy said, "The change Obama has promised is yet to be determined; I hope the real change is that we find solutions in Washington."

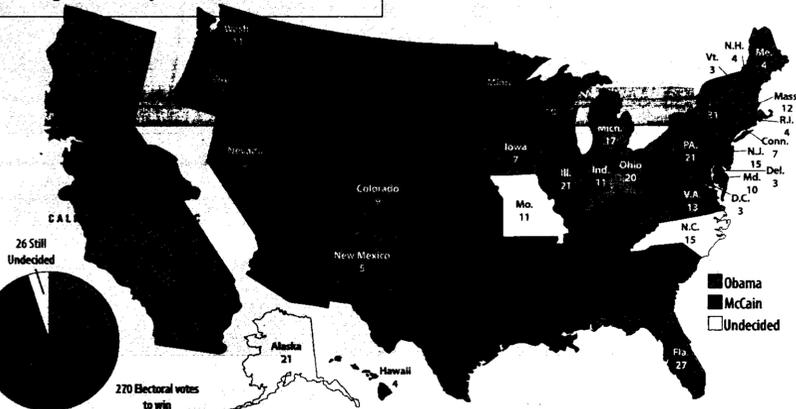
Bakersfield City Council member Zack Scrivener was equally disappointed. "The interesting thing, however, is that during the last several weeks of the election, Obama ran on Republican, conservative principles, such as less government, cutting taxes and reducing waste in government spending. Unfortunately, too many Americans bought into his platform."

"This election is a testament to the lack of education in those two areas."

Assembly member Jean Fuller was also present at the event.

"The people of our great country have spoken," she said. "While I'm personally disappointed, I echo John's sentiments about going forward in a bipartisan fashion to tackle the financial situation. I think it's going to take about two to four years for our financial crisis to completely stabilize considering it's a worldwide problem."

Bakersfield College student and Kern County Coordinator for the Republican party, Scott Raab, felt that this was a wake up call for the Republican party. "But Obama does love his country; he does what he thinks is right. Even though we may disagree, we're going to get behind the president and as a Republican party work toward the next election."



Thomas brings politics to BC

Thomas, former BC professor and U.S. representative, discusses Obama's new campaign styles.

By **KATHERINE J. WHITE**
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Copy editor

What makes this election unique is not because of Obama being black or McCain being the oldest.

This election will change the political world forever for many reasons, said former U.S. Rep. Bill Thomas, Oct. 30, at Bakersfield College's Fireside Room.

"It will never go back to the way it was," said Thomas.

Thomas, a former BC faculty member who served as a U.S. representative for 28 years as well as serving five different U.S. presidents as a member of the Ways and Means Committee, said that this is a stand-out presidential election because this



Republican and former BC faculty member Bill Thomas speaks to a crowd gathered on Oct. 30 in the Fireside room.

is the first time that two sitting U.S. senators are running for president.

This is also the first time since John F. Kennedy in 1960 that a U.S. senator will win the presidency. Another unique difference in this election is the amount of money available to the candidates. The Democrats spent \$319.9 million, and the Republicans \$147 million between June 1-Oct. 15.

According to Thomas, the Democrats spent their money more effectively than the Republicans. Obama's camp used its resources to gather an "unprecedented level" of e-mail addresses. Obama's camp also put out more TV ads than McCain's side.

"Money is the means to an end," Thomas said. "How you regulate it is important."

Although Thomas concedes that the age difference between Obama and McCain is "the greatest in history," Obama's personal charisma was a key element in his campaign.

"A boring nerd couldn't win."

STAFF EDITORIAL

Obama makes history, changes political campaigns of future

After what seemed like non-stop campaigning for nearly two years, the final word was given minutes after California polls closed: History had been made.

Our 44th president-elect was clearly Barack Obama after he went from 241 electoral votes to just over 300. The United States voted for change, and America will definitely be receiving that change. Obama ran his campaign so well that it seemed basically improbable that he could lose.

Although right before he gave his acceptance speech at Grant Park in Chicago, a humble Obama sent out e-mails to all of those signed up on his Web site reminding the people how this election was really won.

He wrote, "You made history every single day during this campaign, every day you knocked on doors, made a donation, or talked to your family, friends and neighbors about why you believe it's time for change."

Indeed, the election of Obama would not have been possible if the people did not vote. History was made in this respect in many different forms. To name a couple, voter registration went up by 15 percent, and young voters actually showed up at the polls. But it was truly his campaign strategy that won him this election.

It seems as though Obama began his campaign in 2004 at the Democratic National Convention with his speech where he first appeared on national television. Between the DNC and 2007, Obama began speaking at graduations, focused on faith-based organizations, unions and appeared many times on Fox News to discuss his ethics reform. That's something that many previous democratic candidates had not done.

He started from the ground up and realized that it was most important to reach the people that would most likely be his future supporters and volunteers. He kept his basic message the same throughout his campaign, "Restoring America," unlike that of Arizona Sen. John McCain's campaign that never had a clear goal or message.

Obama raised more money in the month of August than any other candidate had done in history, attracting nearly 500,000 first-time donors.

Obama used the Internet to collect small donations that allocated much more than he might have expected. Obama's campaign use of the Internet also made history, changing the face of campaigns for future generations.

Racial barriers have fallen, and we the people have elected the first African-American president in his-

tory. Obama took over states Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, Iowa, and New Mexico and just the fact that Obama took Florida 51 percent to 49 percent is a milestone in our history.

Obama has promised many things but everyone must remember that change does not happen overnight. It will take more than just a couple of years to dig ourselves out of the political and economic mess at our feet. Democrats are now in control of both the House and the Senate for the first time since 1995 and now face the difficult task of governing the country through what possibly could be a recession. Obama also plans to cut taxes for most Americans, to get the United States out of Iraq and to expand health care all while he deals with our economic crisis that has proven to be Americans' main concern.

We must continue to hope that after this political race to the presidency our country will not stay divided as red and blue states, like so many polling maps have presented to us, it's time that we all work together to make sure Obama keeps his word to cross party lines. As he has said, we will not be divided by race, political affiliation, sex or sexual preference. We must become united as Americans.

I won't need anyone's help. I can do it on my own.

with that degree, it's gonna give me more opportunity so I can make more money. I'm already working with human resources-how to deal with people, codes of conduct, loyalty, ethics, the hiring process, paperwork.... A job is just a job. A career is something that you worked for. I feel better as a person now. I feel more accomplished.

Michelle Oquendo, '08
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