

Staff Editorial

Students require textbook reserves

With the cost of Bakersfield College tuition staying at a relatively low price, purchasing textbooks is often the greatest burden on a student budget. The high cost of reading materials can sometimes lead to a gap in time between when students start a class and when they are able to purchase the required books.

Luckily, for many struggling students, professors can place the books on reserve in the school's library and many do just that.

"It is an advantage most certainly for students who can't afford a book or have to wait until their Pell Grant comes through," said Bakersfield College Bookstore manager Jennifer Caughron.

Unfortunately, because current policy leaves the decision and financial obligation of providing reserve textbooks up to the professor of each course, some students are unable to gain access to the required material if the professor decides not to make it available.

"It's totally up to professors and many put both their required and optional textbooks on reserve," said Marci Lingo, a Bakersfield College reference librarian.

"Many professors feel that it's of great benefit. Other professors want their students to own a book because they recognize if it is difficult for them to read a book and have to come to the library, they might be less likely to do it," said Lingo.

The result of such policy leaves students in-need at a disadvantage in the ability to complete coursework.

Lingo continued to say, "There are always students who come up and their professor's book is not on reserve and the question we always ask is 'Has the professor said the book is on reserve?' and they say no, but they know other students who come over and use them."

According to Caughron, there are many programs that provide auxiliary funding for textbooks and work directly with the bookstore. There is however, no direct link to the financial aid office and the bookstore, nor does any such credit line exist to extended funding to students awaiting an aid payment.

Caughron cited such programs as the Extended Programs Opportunity and Services voucher worth \$200 that provides a way for students to defer textbook costs.

"There are a lot of options, it's just whether you qualify. With the budget, of course, a lot of funded programs have been cut significantly so the money is not really there anymore," said Caughron.

It is the opinion of The Renegade Rip editorial board that if Bakersfield College is truly dedicated to the education of students than a new policy should be created and funding provided for placing every required textbook on reserve in the library.

Dean of Students Joyce Coleman said that the Student Government Association of BC might be the organization that can take on such a project.

"I think it would be a great proposal to suggest to the SGA that they purchase books to put in the library on reserve," said Coleman.

Kristi Newsom, BC Student Government Association president, said she would be interested in the SGA possibly funding such a new project.

"I think every student should have an opportunity to go get the book from there. I know if I didn't have help for my books, I wouldn't be able to buy them," said Newsom. "Especially when you don't get your money on time. Especially when it's a hard class when you need it the first day, like math."

While textbook revisions and curriculum changes would require an annual update to the school's textbook collection, the initial cost would be the most daunting.

Despite these hardships, the college should make every effort to provide students with the materials needed to complete their coursework.

SGA elections: important or pointless?

Gregory D. Cook
Multimedia editor

It takes about five minutes, you stand in a short line, make a couple of multiple choice decisions on a piece of paper, drop it into a box and go about the rest of your day, with the

PRO knowledge that you have taken part in that most sacred of democratic rituals: voting.

And yet many students pass on this chance to have an active role in choosing who will best represent their interests in the Bakersfield College Student Government Association.

So, why exactly would it be important who gets elected to the SGA?

They are not reforming our health care, making new tax laws and hopefully they do not have the power to declare war on other colleges. In fact, many students on campus have no real idea what function the SGA actually performs, and at least a few of the people reading this are thinking "We have a student government?" So in all honesty, what difference does it make who we elect?

The simple answer is what makes the world go round, it's the root of all evil and some people say it can't buy happiness. That's right, money, and the SGA controls a whole lot of it.

At the end of the fall 2009 semester, the Renegade Rip ran a story stating that the SGA was in control of over \$750,000. Most of that money comes from student registration fees, and the good people of your student government, elected by the students that take the time to vote, are in charge of spending it.

They spend it on things like homecoming, spring fling, refurbishing the student center and the new food pantry. They have also been known to give some of it to various clubs and campus organizations to help fund their activities.

Not voting is the equivalent of putting that \$750,000 in a cage with two howler monkeys, and then complaining when all they do is throw feces at people as they walk by. I like monkeys as much as the next guy, but even I can think of better uses for that kind of money.

SGA elections are your chance to decide who will be responsible for

spending that money in ways that will benefit you.

Listen to the candidates, ask questions if you are unsure and make educated decisions about casting your vote.

As a member of the student body, you bear the responsibility of choosing your representatives. The democratic system depends on the voice of the people being heard, and nowhere is that voice louder than during an electoral process.

I have one final request. If you still choose not to vote, then please don't complain when the SGA does something you don't approve of.

On March 24 and 25 you will be given the chance to speak with your vote, if you can't be bothered with standing in line for a couple of minutes to do that, then forever hold your peace.

Perhaps my grandfather, a WWII veteran, summed it up best when I turned 18 and was able to vote for the first time. He told me "If you're not going to vote, you're more of a dumb-ass than the other dumb-asses you just let choose for you."

By Anthony B. Ellrodt
Copy editor

To put it succinctly, student elections are a joke. They're just like every other political race in the world. Promises are made, great platforms are announced, and we all know the

CON promises are never followed through with action.

In all honesty, there's only so much you can do as an SGA officer. You can promise during your campaign that you're going to bring pizza to the cafeteria once a week, make administration more accessible to the everyday student, and make parking easier in the east parking lot. Students will more than likely cheer you, elect you, then yell and scream at the end of the year because your promises haven't come to fruition.

The fact of the matter is, if the administration says no, it's no. No arguing, no yelling, no crying, just no. Then how do you explain that to your constituents? How do you explain to

the students you represent that you can't make good on your promises because the administration says no? You are going to have to catch the fallout for it and the administration knows it.

I would find it extremely refreshing if a student got up in front of the student population here at Bakersfield College and announced they were running simply because they want to get the stipend that all SGA officers get paid. That's right everyone, SGA representatives don't work for free. The amount of the stipend is up to \$152 a week, or \$608 a month. You also get a slew of other perks and benefits such as going to SGA retreats and national conferences in Washington, D.C. paid for by our student fees.

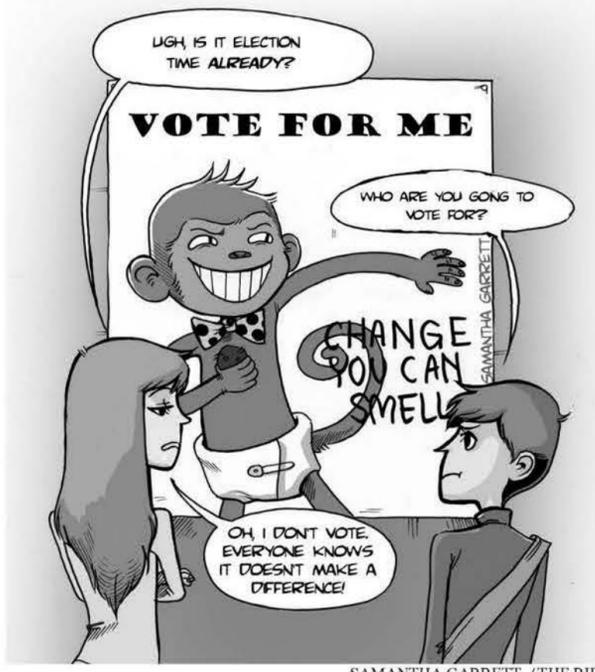
I wish, just once, someone would get up and tell the students they have no idea what they're going to be able to accomplish. I wish they would say, "Hey, I'll do my best, but other than that, I'm not making any promises." I would more than likely vote for someone who was that honest. At least I know they're going to actually try to accomplish something.

The elections are in 10 days and every position is open and available to be filled. There are some officers who are running again, and others that are leaving simply because this is their last semester at BC.

Individually, I think the SGA officers are good, well-meaning people. Overall, what have they accomplished? What have they done for the students they represent? How do we know the next installment of officers is going to be any better? Will they actually effect change on our campus, or will they succumb to what I call the "dark side" and just be in it for the additional money and prestige of being a student government representative? "Look at me, I'm an SGA officer!" God help us all. We're going to have another semester of empty promises if we get that kind of person in office.

I guess you could look at it the other way though and do a write-in for Mickey Mouse, Goofy, or hey, how about Al Gore? I heard he'll make a great government official.

My point is, if you do vote, make use of your right as a student and make sure they're doing their jobs.



SAMANTHA GARRETT /THE RIP

Laziness turns lovely landscapes into littered landfills

Samantha Garrett
Reporter

I know that, what with this recent trend of the green movement, what I'm going to say to you is going to seem radical along that line, it's going to make me seem like some tree-hugger, but I think people shouldn't litter.

I don't know what it is about the idea of littering—I guess it's the sheer laziness of the act—but I cannot stand to see garbage where garbage doesn't belong. Surprisingly, that includes a great many locations.

Particularly parks. Not that parks are special and deserve special treatment (I want you to know that I care for all locations equally and would never want to make one feel different from the other); it's just that most of the people that go there are kids; it's just

that parks are some of the last places we can go without having to deal with gross things.

Usually. Recently, I visited Hart Park. If any of you have been there lately, it's been very green out there, what with the relatively wet weather.

It's beautiful over there, the hills and mountains that are usually gray and brown are a vibrant, welcoming green.

Unfortunately, while the rain was able to wash away the monotonous backdrop of the park, it was unable to wash away all of the litter that had collected there.

I suppose a sociologist would find everything there fascinating—a wide array of Styrofoam cups and cardboard food containers, all of which characterize our Bakersfield tradition of fast food consuming—but I'm not a

sociologist, so I just found it gross.

An offshoot of the river, or at least some part of the park that contained a small stream, was filled so entirely with mucky, tepid water that the sight of it alone was enough to make me want to leave. It was only accented by the fact that a large collection of trash sat at the end of it.

I stood there looking down at it thinking of ways that people could fish it out—with the same nets that people use in pools to remove leaves, or maybe one big net to scoop it all out at once.

I wondered, "Who's responsible for cleaning this up?" Obviously, it was someone's responsibility. Someone was paid to either maintain the park or, even more specifically, clean up the messes that people made.

But then I realized that this

line of thought was incorrect entirely. I was sitting there wondering about the people who were supposed to clean up the mess when the real problem should have been those that created the mess.

I asked myself why people did it. I knew that there were very few, if any, people who would think to themselves, "I'm going to throw this trash on the ground just to ruin someone's day!" Or, at least, that's what I'd like to hope.

It had to be, again, the factor of laziness. Only laziness could possess a person to just up and leave one's garbage wherever one went.

Unless leaving trash is some way of marking one's territory—then I guess there's something else to it ...

What makes people so lazy? Is it the very same food, the food that sheds the containers that these people

leave behind, that makes someone lazy?

Do these people get so fat from the fatty foods that they eat that they can't spare the energy required to get up, walk an extra fifteen yards to the nearest trashcan and throw it away?

At my high school, we had to have trashcans every ten feet to make sure there wasn't a significant litter problem. To make sure that people didn't just throw the trash on the ground, we had to make sure that people never had to walk very far at all.

What's worse to look at—garbage or garbage cans?

The saddest thing of all, for all our solutions, all our gimmicks to prevent people from throwing things on the ground and just leave it there, the easiest, quickest fix would be for people to just stop being so lazy.

'GADE FEEDBACK What can SGA candidates do to get your vote?

Editor's note: 'Gade Feedback is a feature that asks students their opinion on various topics.

Compiled by:
Mateo M. Melero / The Rip



Maria Castro, human services: "Make cafeteria food cheaper and not allow people to smoke cigarettes."



Sal Tapia, business: "Bribes, give free stuff out."



Summer Baker, respiratory therapy: "Have stricter smoking laws."



David Garcia, history: "Do more community outreach programs, and give BC a better reputation in the community."



Jerry Kammerzell, business: "Put the name out so I know what SGA is."



Winner of the 2003 and 2008 JACC Pacesetter Award

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The Renegade Rip

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Ching Yen creates choice chopstick cuisine

Gregory D. Cook
Multimedia editor

Located at 1207 Columbus St., Ching Yen Restaurant offers a convenient place for Bakersfield College students to grab lunch between classes, and their reasonably priced lunch specials make it even harder to resist when the cravings for a good Chinese meal strike.

Ching Yen has a relatively small dining room decorated in a manner that some might perceive as cluttered. Traditional ink and wash paintings of flowers hang next to garishly colored cardboard decorations that look as if they were purchased at a party store, with flowering plants and paper decorations hanging from the ceiling. While all of this might seem distracting, some-

how it actually works in this case. The decorations, collected over the restaurant's 22-year history, set a mood that puts you at ease, as if you were entering a home rather than a restaurant.

My companion and I were seated immediately upon entering and given water and a pot of hot tea. In fact, the tea had been steeped in water that was too hot, bruising its delicate flavors a bit and bringing out the bitterness.

The wait to place our order seemed slightly longer than what we expected, but our hostess explained that she was alone in the dining room this day, when she usually had more people serving. Still the wait was not excessive for a lunch rush, and it gave us time to fully explore the menu.

All of the staples of a Chinese restaurant were present on the menu including mu shu pork, orange chicken, kung pao chicken and several styles of fried rice and noodle dishes, along with a surprising number of specialty Mandarin and Szechwan dishes



GREGORY D. COOK/THE RIP

Candied apples are served flaming to the table.

such as crispy duck, Szechwan sea scallops and Hunan beef. Prices were on the high side of moderate with lunch specials starting around \$6, and full dinners running between \$9 and \$15 per person.

We decided to order from the lunch specials, with my companion ordering the "spicy flavored pork" and I tried the "Ching Yen combination plate." The lunch

specials are served with a small bowl of the house special egg flower soup, steamed rice, and appetizers consisting of a vegetable spring roll and fried pork won ton. We also ordered a plate of crab Rangoon as an additional appetizer.

The soup was the first to arrive and I found it to be much thicker than what I have grown accustomed to in egg flower soup.

The inclusion of colorful vegetables and pink crabmeat along with its thickness not only made for a rich and tasty soup, but it illustrated a key fundamental of Mandarin cuisine, that the food should delight the eye as well as the palette, and this would be a theme repeated throughout the meal with great effect.

Also of note were the crab Rangoon appetizers. Made by wrapping a mixture of crabmeat and cream cheese in a won ton wrapper and frying them, these little packets of heaven were easily the best I have ever had.

The combination plate I or-

dered consisted of nicely sized portions of sweet and sour pork, cashew chicken, chow Mein and mixed vegetables, all were quite good, but the true star of the plate was the sweet and sour pork.

It perfectly embodied the second goal of Mandarin cuisine, which is to take opposite elements and combine them in a pleasing way.

The dish blended the textures of tender pork with a crisp coating, and covered it with a thick sauce that also blended the tastes of sweet and sour in such a way that the bold flavors of the sauce complimented the subtly of the meat. It was truly delightful.

I found that to be true of almost all of the sauces we encountered. Although the sauces were thick and richly flavored, I did not feel that they overpowered their dishes with one exception. The sauce on the spicy flavored pork seemed like an orchestra playing slightly out of tune. It was a jumble of different flavors that never really came together. The spici-

ness of the dish seemed forced, and while I would not go so far as to say it was bad, it was definitely not as good as the rest of the meal.

We finished our meal with a true delight, and one that Susan, our hostess, told is something of a dying art in Asian cuisine: candied fruit. The process is as much of a show as it is a dessert. Chunks of apple or banana are coated with a sugar syrup and sprinkled with toasted sesame seeds. Then they are set on fire and brought to your table still flaming.

Using chopsticks, Susan then took the pieces, one by one, and placed them in a bowl of ice water for a few seconds before placing them on our plates.

The result is a crunchy candy shell made of caramelized sugar covering the fruit. It was delicious.

I would recommend Ching Yen Restaurant to anyone looking for a nice relaxing meal. Good food, good service, good restaurant.

Local play hates on Shakespeare

Ryan George
Reporter

The Gaslight Melodrama brought to life what dozens of novels already have done: that Shakespeare truly sucks to those who cannot understand the heavy language that is used, but after some understanding and translation, Shakespeare is truly a remarkable writer and playwright.

PLAY
REVIEW

★★★★★

Before the show even began, the atmosphere was already filled with music from the actors and actresses working the snack bar. As tips dropped into the plastic jar labeled "Actors 401k Investment Portfolio," the actors sang parodies of songs such as the "Empire" theme from "Star Wars," and my personal favorite, a very creative remix on "Who Let the Dogs Out?" by The Baha Men.

The play, "I Hate Shakespeare," began with the well-known speech by Hamlet, portrayed by Bakersfield College's Scott Hillberry. While a nagging member in the audience (actor Michael Prince) heckles him, Hamlet begins stumbling around the speech and missing lines.

Hillberry's character proceeds to show Prince's character various aspects of Shakespeare plays, all done in a humorous setting. For my part, Prince's character does what I hoped he wouldn't do: he came away a fan of Shakespeare.

The play, however, had many different things to illustrate and translate in modern means, like one situation where two characters from "Othello" fight over a deceased character, who came back to life to defend herself, while on "The Jerry Springer Show."

The randomness of things introduced into various Shakespeare scenes made for a fantastic show. Seriously, who would honestly expect to see Jerry Springer, portrayed by Greg Ramsdell, in a Shakespeare play? In other instances, several zombies randomly attack and eat brains of characters such as Julius Caesar, and a ninja assassinates a king.



RYAN GEORGE / THE RIP

Coryn McBride portrays a modern Juliet in "I Hate Shakespeare" on March 12.

Even better than the acting was the singing, especially in the after-play review. Ken Burdick and his wife Jill performed in a skit titled "Together Again," then later, Ken also sang lead in "Friends in Low Places," originally by Garth Brooks. There was also a wonderful version of "With a Little Help from My Friends," by The Beatles. The songs were very harmonious and outstanding.

This play, more along the lines of a musical, was outstanding for all ages and definitely worth the price of admission.

The Gaslight Melodrama is located at 12748 Jomani Drive, off of Allen Road, north of Rosedale Highway. "I Hate Shakespeare," will be running through April 3, with shows at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday nights, and matinees at 2 p.m. Sundays. Prices are \$20 for adults, \$18 for seniors and \$9 for children for night performances. They are \$18 for adults and \$9 for students on Sundays.

Gorillaz peel new album

By Brian N. Willhite
Reporter

Sailing on the seas of polluted waters, Gorillaz find a home on an island that inspires their new album "Plastic Beach."

ALBUM
REVIEW

★★★★★

Gorillaz have changed up their sound a little bit from their previous records, favoring drum machines, urban beats and keyboards throughout the album while leaving the "band" at home.

I was a bit disappointed with this at first. I have become accustomed to hearing certain things from a Gorillaz album and admittedly, I was eagerly anticipating a "Demon Days" sequel. However, the album delivers on other levels, and is overall very, very good. Maybe even to the point of addiction.

The style that is presented on this album is different, but good. The trance-like and reflective themes throughout the album give this record a more mature essence than previous releases. With lush audio landscapes and brilliant compositions, "Plastic Beach" is a treat to the senses.

The theme of the album is an environmentally friendly effort about how "we" are polluting the earth with our uses of convenience products that are non-biodegradable, and how the garbage and pollution building up are turning the world, or beaches in this case, into a landfill. This creates the fictional

island Gorillaz live on or the so-titled, "Plastic Beach."

Though the message comes through in some of the songs, they are very vague and don't really preach the issue.

Like other Gorillaz albums, Damon Albarn, the leading artistic force behind Gorillaz, pulls together musicians from various genres and works out collaborations with their styles and the familiar Gorillaz sound. This time is no different and for the most part, the collaborations work well.

Collaborators on this album include Snoop Dogg on "Welcome to the World of the Plastic Beach," the album's opening song. The band Little Dragon is featured on "Empire Ants" and "To Binge."

Also present are Mick Jones and Paul Simonon from The Clash and Big Audio Dynamite on "Plastic Beach."

Also making appearances are Mos Def on "Stylo" and "Sweepstakes" with De La Soul, who is featured on "Superfast Jellyfish" with Gruff Rhys.

Bobby Womack, an R&B and soul singer from the '70s era also appears on "Stylo" and "Cloud of Unknowing." At first I didn't like his contributions to the project, but after a while I really started to get how he fit in, and he sounds good.

There are also appearances by Lou Reed of the famed Velvet Underground on "Some Kind of Nature" and Mark E. Smith on "Glitter Freeze," which basically sounds a lot like a Fatboy Slim track.

My only qualm is that a few of the tracks don't have much of a Gorillaz feel to them, leaving the album sounding like a mixed tape at times with some of the different artists' songs like the Snoop Dogg track and the Mark E. Smith track.

The tracks are all good and well done, but they just don't fit together in my opinion.

However, this setback doesn't affect the album too much because the rest of the album is filled with pearls and gems.

"Rhinstone Eyes," "Stylo," and "Empire Ants" are among my favorites. These tracks have a seductive and up-tempo beat that pull you into the plastic beach universe.

Also, "On Melancholy Hill" and "Broken" are very mellow with an electronica-island vibe to them. Well, most of the album has an island vibe to it, too. In some of the tracks, ocean waves coming on to the shore and seagulls flying faintly in the background can be heard adding to the surreal escape that the music provides.

The techno-type nature of the songs are probably best listened to when you're in a mellowed out mode and driving down the street at night with the windows down and the bass turned up.

The reflective sound and nature on the album makes this a more mature sounding Gorillaz album than the others, too.

If you're expecting "Plastic Beach" to be like other Gorillaz albums, you may be disappointed, but if you give it a chance, I think you'll find it to be something special.

Pattinson gives memorable performance in romantic 'Remember Me'

By Kelly Ardis
Editor in chief

The idea that all girls love romance films is a load of crap. Of all the subpar romantic comedies, romantic dramas and romantic comedies, I like fewer than I can count on two hands. Ninety percent of them are cliched, predictable and just awful. So despite my love for Robert Pattinson (yes, one of those few romance movies I like is "Twilight"), I was worried that his latest film "Remember Me"

would be just like any other romance movie: boy meets girl, girl plays hard to get for about a day, boy and girl embark on a whirlwind romance, boy and girl have some misunderstanding, boy and girl resolve misunderstanding and live happily ever after. To say "Remember Me" surprised me is an understatement.

"Remember Me" is about Tyler Hawkins (Pattinson) and Ally Craig (Emilie de Ravin of "Lost"), two young people who have both lost close members of their families and deal with it in different ways. Where Tyler is brooding and philosophical, Ally takes advantage of every day. Together, they find the balance that they need to be happy.

Although their story does hit some points of the aforementioned cliché romance plot, it does so with fully developed characters that are immensely likable and real. The characters, and the unexpected twists that vastly stray from the formulaic plot, make this movie leaps and bounds better than the run-of-the-mill Nicholas Sparks movies. What's more surprising than how good this movie was is the ending, but I'm obviously not going to spoil it like other critics have already done.

Anyone who has seen Pattinson's performance in the "Twilight" movies knows that he is no stranger to brooding; vampire Edward Cullen can be a bit of a

mope. But as Tyler, Pattinson's brooding is relatable and more authentic. He and the audience understand the pain of losing a loved one a lot more than they understand the pain of being a beautiful, graceful immortal. Despite the similarity in moods, never did I think "Oh hey, Eddie, why aren't you sparkling in the sun?" These are two very different characters and Pattinson did Tyler justice and proved that he is more than Edward Cullen.

Something else that set this movie apart from other romantic movies is the depth of the supporting cast. Pierce Brosnan plays Charles, Tyler's workaholic and detached father who bails Tyler out of jail twice, but

still doesn't really seem to know or like his son. Pattinson's role as a brother to Tyler's artistic little sister Caroline (Ruby Jerins) is as compelling as his role as a lover. Tyler is Caroline's best friend and is there when their father is not. At first, Ally's father Neil is a heartless cop, but later he's just a protective father. All of these supporting characters have just as much of a story to tell as Tyler and Ally, and they get to tell them without taking away from the main story.

The script was well-written and for the most part, the lines were delivered appropriately, but unfortunately there were a few lines that were a little mumbled and hard to catch, probably the

result of three key actors trading in their natural accents for American accents. No key lines were misunderstood and none of the mumbles led to huge confusion, but it did disrupt the flow of the movie when I'd occasionally have to ask my friend what was just said, only to be told she didn't know either.

"Remember Me" is a special movie, a genuine piece of art very different from the manufactured products the Hollywood machine typically spews and labels romance. The message of living each day to the fullest and not letting life or love pass you by leaves the audience thinking about their own lives and how they can make them count.

BC BRAINS What historical event took place in Seneca Falls, NY?

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



Magali Vidal, undecided: "The signing of the Declaration of Independence?"



Gustavo Gomez, engineering: "Women's rights movements?"



Sharaa Mitchell, undecided: "It was some convention?"

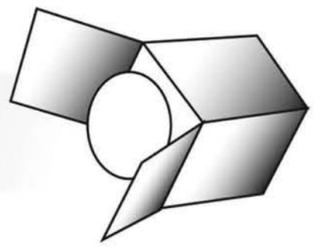
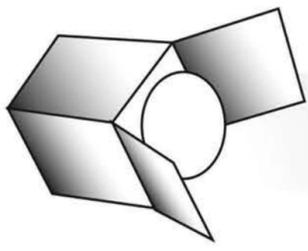


Erika Greer, liberal arts: "Is that where Hitler died?"



Serenity Hansford, liberal arts: "A bunch of sinners fell off of a cliff?"

Compiled by:
Mateo M. Melero / The Rip



Band plays Celtic music with 'real edge'

By Vincent Perez
News editor

Celtic music is not the first thing that comes to mind when Bakersfield music is brought up, but at the Lengthwise Brewing Company on the night of March 13, Whiskey Galore, a four-piece Celtic band from Bakersfield, had the crowd singing along all night.

Whiskey Galore came together in 1997 through percussionist Mike Bowen's and bagpiper Kevin Briley's appreciation for Celtic music and as the years passed, guitarist Jeff Davis and bassist Rich Spencer were added to the lineup.

"We started out as a duo, Kevin and I. I went to Kevin for piping lessons. Jeff did, too. Jeff did for a number of years and Kevin and I formed a duo. Years went by and Jeff came up one day and said, 'I can play a little guitar,' and he was able to become our third member," said Bowen.

"Then we added Rich on bass, who is a childhood friend of Kevin's, also. We all came from musical roots. We all had the love for the pipes. It really helps in our type of music for the other musicians to know how piping music is structured because it's different than most things. We know where the stops and starts are," added Bowen.

Briley added about the band's longevity.

"There's no way out. Once you join, you're family."

Bassist Spencer described the band's sound.

"I would describe it as Celtic music with a real edge to it. We play everything very traditional, as far as instrument choices we use and songs we pick, but we like to bring out our own flair."

However, Spencer added about their influences. "We're really influenced by things other than Irish traditional music. Personally, I don't listen to a lot of Irish music. I'm more into thrash metal and punk and funk, alternative music. None of us listen to the same music."

Spencer talked about his personal influences, as he said, "My favorite band in the world is probably Nuclear Rabbit, which is a very obscure band from the Bay Area back when I was in college [UC Berkeley, 1990s]. They have an amazing bass player (Jean Baudin) and he's influenced my style a lot."

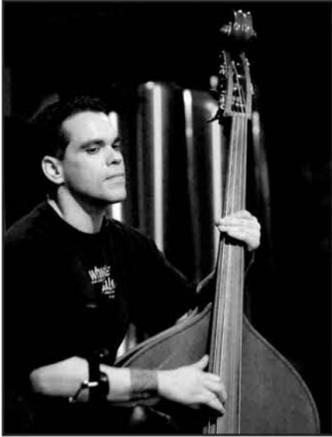
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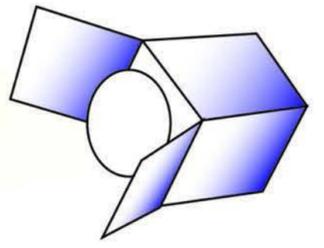
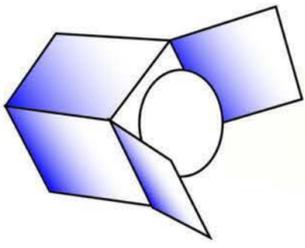


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Band plays Celtic music with 'real edge'

By Vincent Perez
News editor

Celtic music is not the first thing that comes to mind when Bakersfield music is brought up, but at the Lengthwise Brewing Company on the night of March 13, Whiskey Galore, a four-piece Celtic band from Bakersfield, had the crowd singing along all night.

Whiskey Galore came together in 1997 through percussionist Mike Bowen's and bagpiper Kevin Briley's appreciation for Celtic music and as the years passed, guitarist Jeff Davis and bassist Rich Spencer were added to the lineup.

"We started out as a duo, Kevin and I. I went to Kevin for piping lessons. Jeff did, too. Jeff did for a number of years and Kevin and I formed a duo. Years went by and Jeff came up one day and said, 'I can play a little guitar,' and he was able to become our third member," said Bowen.

"Then we added Rich on bass, who is a childhood friend of Kevin's, also. We all came from musical roots. We all had the love for the pipes. It really helps in our type of music for the other musicians to know how piping music is structured because it's different than most things. We know where the stops and starts are," added Bowen.

Briley added about the band's longevity.

"There's no way out. Once you join, you're family."

Bassist Spencer described the band's sound.

"I would describe it as Celtic music with a real edge to it. We play everything very traditional, as far as instrument choices we use and songs we pick, but we like to bring out our own flair."

However, Spencer added about their influences. "We're really influenced by things other than Irish traditional music. Personally, I don't listen to a lot of Irish music. I'm more into thrash metal and punk and funk, alternative music. None of us listen to the same music."

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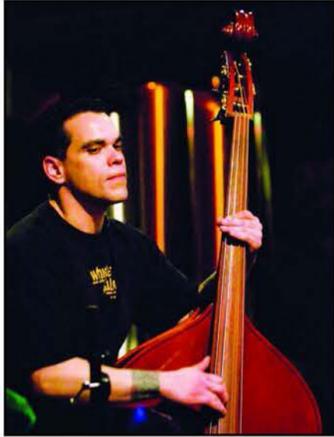
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Bakersfield College infielder Amanda Flores swings at a seventh inning pitch against Fullerton College on March 9. BC lost the game 8-3.

Softball team doesn't quit

Natalie Rodriguez
Reporter

The Bakersfield College softball team added another win to their record due to a forfeit against Santa Monica College on March 11.

Santa Monica did not have their bus driver show up, so they did not have a legal driver. BC offered to reschedule for March 12 but Santa Monica never got back to BC head coach Sandi Taylor about rescheduling.

Taylor talked about the win against Santa Monica.

"We don't consider it a win, it goes on our record but it is not a win really. We would rather play, that is why we offered go play on Friday," said Taylor.

Shortstop Courtney Hockett also talked about the Santa Monica forfeit.

"It's kind of discouraging be-

cause we didn't have to put forth effort but at least we have another win," said Hockett.

BC lost against Fullerton College on March 9, 8-3. In the top of the 3rd inning Fullerton scored two runs and then scored two runs again in the 4th inning.

By the bottom of the 6th inning BC had scored three runs. BC's right fielder Amanda Roberts got a base hit, which allowed shortstop Courtney Hockett to score a run. Next up was catcher Jamie Dumatrait who tripled to center field, which drove in two runs.

Hockett talked about her teammate and the game.

"It is really nice when you get a rally going on, even though it was too late. It is really contagious, but it's really nice to score some runs," said Hockett.

Taylor pointed to Hockett and Dumatrait as key contributors.

"Those two players have been

really hitting the ball hard and I thought it showed a lot of character on their part because had we not scored a run in the bottom of the 6th inning, the game would have been over. It just shows their fight and determination. They are not going to stop until the last out," said Taylor.

Taylor continued to talk about the teams qualities.

"It was not our best game, we had too many errors, we didn't meet our own standards, and so it wasn't our best performance as a whole," said Taylor.

She went on to say they have too many two-out errors and too many strikeouts. Taylor also said her team, "showed a lot of character being down 8-0, and there is no quit in them."

The BC softball team has 10 games in the next two weeks. Taylor said, "We have a tough couple of weeks ahead of us."

Scorecard

Baseball			
March 6	Glendale 4, BC 0		
March 9	BC 4, Glendale 1		
March 11	BC 4, LA Pierce 1		
March 13	LA Pierce 7, BC 5		
March 16	at West LA	2 p.m.	
March 18	West LA	6 p.m.	
March 20	Canyons	1 p.m.	
March 23	at Canyons	2 p.m.	
Softball			
March 4	Glendale 8, BC 6		
March 6	BC Classic #1 (1-3)		
March 9	Fullerton 8, BC 3		
March 11	Santa Monica forfeit		
March 16	Citrus (DH)	2:30/4:30	
March 18	LA Valley		
March 20-21	BC Classic #2		
March 23	at LA Mission (DH)	1/3 p.m.	
Men's golf			
March 8	BC 2nd Place		
March 15	BC 4th Place		
March 21-22	North-South Cup	10:30-8	
March 29	WSC match at Murrieta	11 a.m.	
Men and women's track and field			
March 19	WSC meet at Ventura	1 p.m.	
March 26	at Antelope Valley	Noon	
April 3	Antelope Valley Invitational	9 a.m.	
Men's tennis			
March 4	BC 6, L.A. Pierce 3		
March 9	BC 7, Glendale College		
March 18	Santa Barbara	2 p.m.	
March 25	at Ventura	2 p.m.	
Women's tennis			
March 4	Santa Monica 9, BC 0		
March 9	BC 7, Glendale 2		
March 18	at Santa Barbara	2 p.m.	
March 25	Ventura College	2 p.m.	
Men and women's swimming			
March 20	WSC Quads at Pierce	10 a.m.	
March 26	WSC Quads at Cuesta	10 a.m.	

Track finishes first and second

Michael Morrow
Sports editor

The Bakersfield College track and field team hosted the BC relays on March 13, with the women coming in first and the men finishing in second. The men had three first-place finishes and three second-place finishes, while the women had six first-place finishes and four second-place finishes.

The men fell to Antelope Valley by the team scores of 206.5 to 178 but beat out College of the Canyons who had 130.5. The women beat out AVC and Canyons with the scores of BC 157, AVC 138, and COC 134.5. In the 800-meter, run Melinda Magee came in first with an elapsed time of 2:38.33.

In the long jump competition, Chanel Reaves jumped 17 feet to get a first-place finish.

According to Coach Dave Frickel, the team finished strongly because of Chelsea Cassulo's four first-place finishes. Cassulo placed first in the shot put, hammer, discus and javelin.

"She had an outstanding day, just an awesome day, she did what she needed to do for us and really pushed the girls ahead," said Frickel. "Three or four events she's in, she's in the top 10 in Southern California."

For the men, Eddie Morrow has been the standout. Morrow won the 400-meter hurdles with the time of 54.12. Morrow is in the top three in the Southern California area in the 400 hurdles and, according to Frickel, he can only get better.

"I think coming in second can help us out. It'll give them a confidence boost and when the conference mini-meets come up we'll be ready," said Frickel. "A lot of the kids improved their marks, so they are showing the improvement we expected to see out of them."

Frickel spoke about expectations for the upcoming Western State Conference matchup on March 19.

"This week we have a conference meet. It's the first of two, and we only have two because we had to cut back some due to the economic cuts we had to make," said Frickel. "The teams we're going against, I think we match up real well. Hoping for both the men and women to finish as high as we can this week."

"The mini-meets also factor in to the overall score at the end of the year for the championship and for the conference, so obviously we want to finish as high as we can."

RIP NATION Do you follow NCAA March Madness? Who's going to be in the Final Four?

Editor's note: Rip Nation is a feature that highlights the opinions of Bakersfield College's athletes and coaches.



Carl Ferreira, head volleyball coach: "Yes. I think it's the best sporting event of the year. Kansas, Duke, West Virginia, Syracuse."



Courtney Hockett, softball: "I don't because I'm not a big basketball fan."



Chanel Reaves, track and field: "No. I've never heard of it. But I knew it was a sport."



Amy Waters, softball: "Yes. I love basketball. Kansas, Kentucky, Duke cause their my team and Georgia Tech."



Gene Lundquist, women's tennis head coach: "Yes. But I don't study it. Duke, Texas, and Kansas or Georgetown."

Compiled by:
Rip Staff

Men's golf third in conference, look to catch Ventura and Canyons

Natalie Rodriguez
Reporter

The Bakersfield College men's golf team placed fourth out of 16 in the College of the Canyons Invitational played in Simi Valley on March 15.

College of the Canyons placed first with 379 strokes, Ventura College came in second with 397, Allan Hancock College placed third with 401, BC came in fourth with 403, Glendale College and Santa Barbara City College tied for fifth with 411 and

Citrus College came in seventh with 423.

Coach Bill Kalivas spoke to what the team needs to improve on after the tournament.

"We are going to have to work on having better course management," said Kalivas.

He also spoke about another factor his team deals with.

"We have an extremely young team, but we hope to get better each week."

Rufie Fessler led the team with a 79. Chris McCracken was next with an 80, followed by both

Rich Gilkey and Ryan Underhill who tied with an 81, James Phillip with an 82 and Daniel Russell, who has a wrist injury, at an 85.

Kalivas commented on the course at Simi Valley after the tournament.

"The greens were bad and there were swirly winds. It was an extremely difficult course," said Kalivas.

The BC golf team came in second the week before at the Western State Conference held in Bakersfield.



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DeVry University graduates from June 2003 - June 2008 in the active job market. Active job market includes those employed prior to graduation. Fortune 500 ranking, 2008. ©2009 DeVry Educational Development Corp. All rights reserved.

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