

Call of Duty: Black Ops earns stars for gameplay

By Nicholas Flores
Reporter

Like every other fan of the Call of Duty franchise, I have been patiently waiting for the release of "Call of Duty: Black Ops." I already had the game preordered.

At around midnight on Nov. 9, I drove over to Gamestop to go pick up my copy of Black Ops.

VIDEO GAME REVIEW Immediately when I got home I jumped online and started to play one of the new modes for

Call of Duty, "One in the Chamber," which was one of the most talked about multiplayer modes for the beta testing.

The point of "One in the Chamber" is you have one bullet in your chamber and if you kill your opponent you get a bullet back but if you miss you're only left with your knife, which increases the game play and thinking of the game.

Something new that Treyarch Productions (no longer Infinity Ward) brought to the online experience was the customization of your character, which is a plus.

You are still able to customize your weapons as well.

Once I was done testing all of the online modes and game play,

I began to lean more toward the single-player campaign mode.

In this game you play as CIA agent Alex Mason, who is a big-time hotshot in the agency.

He is trying to remember his past experiences throughout his time in war through flashbacks, and the player gets to relive them.

The campaign starts off very strong. The player's vision is blurred and there is a deep, anonymous voice asking questions about the past and "where it all began."

Also for the first time ever in a Call of Duty game the player gets the opportunity to fly a helicopter, which was very exciting and what a lot of fans were looking

forward to. The graphics and the cut scenes for the game were not meant to blow anyone away.

The focus of the game developers was not to emphasize graphics but to emphasize the campaign and multiplayer modes.

Being a big fan of the Call of Duty franchise, I was not disappointed at all with Black Ops. Treyarch really upped the multiplayer fun and the campaign was not as dull as the previous campaign in Modern Warfare 2.

Overall this is a great first person shooter, and if you're a gamer and you do not own this, you should save up and go out to buy it, because this game will do everything except disappoint you.



COURTESY OF G4TV.COM

Special agent Frank Woods marches through a jungle setting during the campaign mode of Activision's first-person shooter "Call of Duty: Black Ops."

Burberry more than just frozen yogurt

By Cristal Rodriguez
Reporter

When you're in the mood for some delicious frozen yogurt and a place to relax, head over to Burberry's Frozen Yogurt located on 18th street.

FOOD REVIEW At Burberry's they not only have frozen yogurt, they also have

other treats such as smoothies, bagels, pastries, coffee and other drinks.

A must have at Burberry's is the blueberry frozen yogurt; it is so delicious with its sweet and sour taste.

It's so yummy and has a weird taste, but in a good way. At first, it's really cold, and then you taste the sweet yogurt, then the sour blueberry tinges your tongue. After that, you don't want to put your spoon down. I encourage everyone to try this at least once in your life.

Another cool thing about this place is that they have all kinds of healthy, sweet and chocolaty toppings.

You have the choice of creating a healthy snack, fruity snack, sweet snack, chocolaty snack or just go crazy and add whatever you'd like.

The toppings at Burrber-

ry's are strawberry, raspberry, blueberry, pineapple, coconut, gummy bears, sprinkles, Butterfinger bits, granola, white chocolate, chocolate chips and many other things.

Aside from all the great desserts Burberry's has, I also loved the look.

There are round black tables with simple purple chairs around them. There are also pictures from all over the world hung around the walls, which makes it look neat.

This place is just so awesome and it doesn't feel crowded either like Cold Stone; this place is just so roomy and spacious. There's literally enough room around the tables for me to dance around- if I wanted to.

It is suitable for all college students who need to get work done too, because the atmosphere is very welcoming and relaxing with a great view of downtown Bakersfield.

They also offer free Wi-Fi, which is a plus.

And this place is also affordable for students and families to enjoy.

Frozen yogurt at Burberry's cost \$3 for small, \$4 for medium and \$5 for large with no toppings.

If you would like toppings all you have to do is add \$1 to whichever size you get and you will have access to all the top-



ANNIE STOCKMAN / THE RIP

Burberry's Frozen Yougurt, in downtown Bakersfield offers multiple toppings such as sprinkles, raspberry, strawberry, coconut, granola, and more all at reasonable prices. Unlimited toppings are available for \$1 more.

pings you'd like. Other places would charge more than \$1 for unlimited toppings; so who wouldn't want to go to Burberry's with these affordable prices?

And for someone like me who has a sweet tooth every once in a while but doesn't always want fat junk food and candy, Burberry's is a great option.

Burberry's can be a healthy

snack because they use original tart that doesn't contain all that sugar and carbs.

It all just depends on the type of yogurt you get and toppings as well.

So whenever you're craving something sweet and tasty, instead of driving out of town to L.A., just go to Burberry's and enjoy some delicious blueberry yogurt with unlimited toppings.

Creativity, humor in animated comedy

By James Licea
Reporter

"Megamind" is an entertaining movie with many surprises and quite a few laughs. The movie is targeted at kids, but anyone who is a fan of Will Ferrell will definitely be amused.

The plot revolves around two characters, Megamind and Metro Man, who are both sent from space in the beginning of the movie.

Where they both end up on Earth somewhat determines their destiny. Metro Man (Brad Pitt) ends up in a suburban couple's home, while Megamind (Will Ferrell) ends up in a prison. Growing up, Metro Man takes the roll of the superhero and Megamind takes the role of the villain.

What I thought was most interesting about this movie was how original the plot was, at least to me. I kept thinking the movie was going in a certain direction and was very surprised when all my predictions ended up being wrong. There were three specific moments in the movie that I did not see coming at all.

With a cast including Ferrell, Pitt, Tina Fey, Jonah Hill, David Cross and Ben Stiller, the movie

took on many aspects of a usual comedy movie that you would normally find these actors in.

It still possessed the elements of a children's movie by placing some dimwitted laughs that any child would find comical, but it also had somewhat of a sophisticated humor that will keep adults' attention as well.

I found the action in the movie a bit surprising. I would say it is more violent-natured than a lot of children's movies, but it still wasn't too bad.

The movie takes a different approach than most superhero movies I've seen. While most movies would normally focus on the superhero, the villain is the main character in this version, which is a little odd at first, but it works well toward the end.

Will Ferrell does play a character that he's played many times before and uses his typical humor. In the film he mispronounces words and makes silly assumptions about things that are funny but a little redundant.

Overall this movie is one I'd see again. It had great character development, a good plot, an awesome soundtrack and a lot of laughs.

Though at times I questioned whether the content was suitable for children, it was a good movie and, if I had children, I would take them to see it.

Kid Cudi uses vices as inspiration in new album and blends genres

By Martin Chang
Reporter

With "The Man on the Moon II: The Legend of Mr. Ranger," Kid Cudi has created a musical work of unique power. He uses the genre of hip-hop to explore the dark side of the human psyche with spectacular results.

ALBUM REVIEW

I have always found electronic music to have a strange, otherworldly, dark quality to it. I have spent many nights listening to various techno albums, such as "Human After All" by Daft Punk, feeling a release of dark energy. It is a therapeutic process that I must do every once in a while. Yet these albums never quite had the power I knew was possible. This power is realized on "The Man on the Moon II: The Legend of Mr. Rager."

This starts with the songwriting, rapping and singing talents of Kid Cudi. He explores his deep feelings of pain and mental anguish and how he uses sex and drugs to escape from it. On other songs he

writes of a "journey," a "journey" into the dark spaces in his head. He writes of these feelings with brutal honesty. He shows his dark side, warts and all. It makes for a compelling listen and takes his songs to a higher place.

The way he raps and sings these words takes the listener into these feelings. You can hear him spit out his pain at times, and other times he sings of it sweetly.

Sometimes it combines these two vocal styles into something unique. These varying vocal styles allow the album's theme to never get too dull.

The album is at times soft and quiet, and other times hard and crushing. This is all possible because of Cudi's talent behind the microphone.

These songs could easily fall down under the weight of their ambition.

Inner pain is a hard thing to put across in any genre, let alone hip-hop.

The music that accompanies Cudi's vocal talent never makes a misstep. Each song is a well-crafted piece that serves Cudi's themes.

On "Marijuana," a song that Cudi

explores the bliss he experiences after smoking the drug, a minimalist approach is wisely used. The smoothly sung song is augmented by simple drum and bass patterns, and choir sounding voices. These elements never clutter up the power of the vocal melodies.

On the other, lighter songs on the album, songs like the beautifully sung ballad "All Along," the same careful sense of composition is used. This sense of focus on Cudi's vocals continues throughout the album, even on the more instrumental heavy songs.

On the heavier, darker songs the driving bass lines and distorted sound loops give the songs an almost extreme heart in your throat.

Other elements such as slowed down voices and distorted laughing turn the darkest moments into compelling electronic sound collages.

These are the moments in which you feel the dark side of Cudi most powerfully.

These moments are the moments that give me that therapeutic release.

The album is made of more than these two extremes. On songs like

"Mr. Ranger" the instrumental quality of the darker songs is used, yet Cudi sings in a melodic way that gives the song a softer edge.

On songs such as "Don't Play This Song" and "These Worries," which features Mary J. Blige, they take a more traditional approach to hip-hop. Yet the way Blige's voice combines with Cudi delivery and subject make it unique. All the more regular songs still have something great because of the music and Cudi's songwriting.

"Erase Me," the lead single off the album, does not fit the album thematically, but it is one of the most memorable moments on the album.

It is a rock-rap hybrid about a toxic relationship. The song is outrageously catchy and Cudi gives a great rock 'n' roll performance. It has great arena rock feel with its thumping drums. It is a song that will stick into many listeners' heads.

As someone who is not a huge fan of hip-hop, I never thought I could connect with a rapper. It usually is with rock performers such as Kurt Cobain. But just by the quality of his music, I feel a connection.



COURTESY OF LAST.FM

Rapper Kid Cudi poses for a publicity photo. Cudi's new album "Man on the Moon II: The Legend of Mr. Ranger" explores Kid Cudi's inner emotions.

BC BRAINS

"There are four words in the English language that start with Dw- what are they?"

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

Compiled by:
Rip Staff

Craig Miles,
Automotive
Technician: "Draw?
I feel retarded.
I wanted to say
dwarf."

Justin Thornton,
Biology: "The only
thing I can think of
is Dwaite, and it's a
name."

Allen Aguilar,
Sociology:
"Dwindle, there's
three? That's all I
know to be honest.
I can't think of
anything."

Melissa Pilar,
Computer
Engineering:
"Is dwelled a word? I
think that's the only
word I can get."

Alberto Flores,
Engineering:
"Dwell, I can't use
names I was gonna
say dwindle. That's
as far as I know."

Correct answer: Dwarf, dwell, dwindle and dwindle.

BC football heads south for playoffs

Before the games | The scenarios BC faced going into the final two regular season games.

With two games left to play in the regular season, the Bakersfield College Renegades (8-2 overall, 4-1 NNC) controlled their National Northern Conference destiny, but after a Nov. 6 loss to Cerritos College (8-2, 4-1 NNC) on a wild final play of the game, BC had to jockey for its playoff position.

Even with a win on Nov. 13, the Renegades were not guaranteed to open the playoffs at home in the Golden Empire Bowl.

They would need to beat No. 8 College of the Canyons (6-4, 3-2 NNC) and have unranked Allan Hancock College (3-7, 0-5 NNC) beat No. 3 Cerritos (8-2, 4-1 NNC) to outright win the conference.

The top two seeds in the southern region win home games and going into the game, BC was looking at a four seed. To move up and earn a home game, BC needed a lot of help from some lower ranked teams. No. 2 Saddleback College (8-2, 4-1 National Southern Conference) played at No. 5 Fullerton (6-4, 3-2 NSC) while No. 18 Pasadena City (4-6, 0-5 NSC) traveled to take on defending state champs No. 1 Mount San Antonio College (10-0, 5-0 NSC).

None of the above scenarios worked out in BC's favor, so BC earned a conference co-championship, but BC will have to travel in the first round of the SoCal playoffs.

The Renegades' two losses have come against Mt. SAC and Cerritos, while their most important wins have come against Saddleback and now Canyons.

Renegades get in, but awarded No. 1 Mt. SAC

The Bakersfield College Renegades lost and won in their final two regular-season games and are headed to the playoffs but will not host the Golden Empire Bowl game.

BC led Cerritos College going into the fourth quarter of their game on Nov. 6, and then Cerritos started to come back and tied the game at 21. But BC still had a chance to win on the final play of the game with a 47-yard field goal attempt. Cerritos blocked the attempt, and pulled off the unimaginable and won 27-21.

BC set up for a field goal attempt with one second on the clock, and after Cerritos used up three timeouts to try to ice kicker Josh Gallington, Falcons' free safety Keith McGill blocked the attempt. Defensive back Tyrone Taylor picked it up and ran 62 yards the other way before pitching it back to McGill, who ran for 35 yards and the touchdown as time expired.

The Renegades controlled the game with a solid combination of rushing and passing, but allowed the Falcons to get back in the game with their ground game. Cerritos racked up 282 rushing yards with three touchdowns.

BC head coach Jeff Chudy spoke about how the game ended.

"You know, sometimes that's how the game of football goes," he said. "Our guys gave a good effort, but there are some things you just can't control."

Against College of the Canyons, the defense dominated and helped the Renegades to a 41-14 victory. On the opening drive for Canyons, it looked like it would be a rough day for the Renegades when the

Cougars drove the ball down to the one-yard line, but after an illegal procedure penalty that moved Canyons back to the six-yard line, the Cougars missed a 27 yard field goal.

The defense played strong all game and held the Cougars to 25 yards rushing. They did allow 201 passing yards with one touchdown, but most of the pass yardage was the Cougars trying to play catch up. The Renegade defense also helped put points on the board with a series of Cougar miscues that led to points.

Early in the second quarter, Cougar quarterback Justin Arias fumbled the ball and linebacker Tierney Yates recovered it at the Canyons' 18-yard line. Four plays later, running back Julian Dean-Johnson rushed one yard for the touchdown. After the kickoff for a touchback, Arias dropped back to pass and was hit as he released the pass, defensive back Tyler Dogins intercepted the pass and returned it 25 yards for the touchdown.

After returning the pick for a touchdown, Dogins wasn't done.

On the kick return for the Cougars, Jarrel Jordan was hit by Dogins and fumbled the ball into the hands of defensive back Zach Vasquez. The Renegades wouldn't manage any points off the turnover, but late in the second quarter after another Arias interception – this one intercepted by Dillon Meadows – BC drove down the field from their own 37 and finished the drive with a 10-yard pass from quarterback Lyle Negron to wideout Brandon Hobdy for the touchdown giving BC the lead 31-0.

The Renegades added 10 points with a 37-yard field goal by Gallington in the third and a Dean-Johnson 18-yard rush in the fourth quarter.

Dean-Johnson ended with three touchdowns on 15 carries for 52 yards.

After the game, Chudy talked about how the team performed.

"Obviously to be extremely proud as coaches would be an understatement and for them to come out with the type of intensity and the type of energy that we had the first

half was truly a statement on what type of football team we have here," said Chudy.

"We don't have guys that look the part, we just have guys that play. We created some turnovers and were flying around defensive and offensively we came off the ball and put hats on guys."

"I was totally impressed with how our attitude was and the fact that we took the initiative right from the start because both teams were playing for the same scenarios."

After the games | The playoff situation and who plays where. Including who hosts the Golden Empire Bowl.

On Saturday, Memorial Stadium will host a football game featuring the SoCal No. 9 College of the Canyons (6-4) vs. the SoCal No. 6 Fullerton College (6-4).

The Bakersfield College Renegades will play the No. 1 Mt. San Antonio College Mounties in Walnut, on Nov. 20 at 6 p.m. in the National Bowl for a chance to play in the Southern California Championship

game. In the past three years, twice the Renegades have been bounced from the playoffs by the Mounties. This season, the Mounties beat the Renegades in the regular season 34-20, but since that point, in four of their last five games, Mt. SAC has played in some close contests that have been decided late.

vs. Palomar 20-17
at Grossmont 34-20
at Saddleback 33-31
vs. Fullerton 27-23
vs. Pasadena 33-30

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NATHAN WILSON / THE RIP

Bakersfield College running back Leandre West receives a handoff from quarterback Lyle Negron during a game at Memorial Stadium on Nov. 13.



NATHAN WILSON / THE RIP

College of the Canyons cornerback Cassius Sendish (33) lands headfirst while tackling Renegades running back Leandre West at Memorial Stadium on Nov. 13. Sendish was not injured on the play.

Column

Prices too high for tickets

By Michael Morrow
Video Production Editor

When I was a young boy, I was a big sports fan and always dreamed of traveling from city to city taking in different games from the great coliseums and domes around the country. Whether it be taking in a baseball game at Yankee Stadium, new and old, or seeing Brett Favre light it up in a Packer game at legendary Lambeau Field or watching Michael Jordan destroy another team's playoff hopes with a buzzer-beater at the United Center, I wanted to see it all.

Unfortunately, nowadays, it isn't quite so simple with ticket prices being as outrageous as they can get. For a 24-year-old sports fan, I find it very pathetic that I have only attended one live pro sporting event.

The main worry for me is the distance of some of the events I would like to attend, but creeping up slowly is the fact that the average fan can't afford to pay for the tickets. Because the leagues won't lower their ticket prices, the easy alternative for a fan is to buy a nice 52-inch HD flat-screen TV and sit at home with family and friends and watch multiple games, with a better view of the game.

That cause and effect has created a whole different problem for the fans and the league. The leagues decided, if they can't get people to pay, the league will blackout their local team so they can't see their favorite teams play. This isn't a recent occurrence, but rather something that started when the money from TV contracts began to be double and triple what the players salaries are.

For me, it just feels like another one of those issues that are all about the moolah and less about what the game was intended for – the fun, and the fans.

The San Francisco Giants World Series Game 1 tickets had a wide range of prices, and in fact, most team sporting events do. Here are the listings of what I have found.

San Francisco Giants vs. Texas Rangers World Series Game 1: Upper deck above home dugout \$880 from StubHub.com.

Oakland Raiders ticket price range: \$35 for the bad seats and \$1,500 for the best seats from StubHub.com and \$43-\$176 from what is available from the team's official website.

San Diego Chargers ticket price range: \$49-\$5,000 on StubHub.com and \$61-\$323 from what is available from the team's official website.

Super Bowl XLV at Cowboys Stadium: \$1,965-\$380,000 for some ridiculous seat on StubHub.com, and tickets are not yet available through Ticketmaster.

Los Angeles Lakers ticket price range: \$30 for the ant viewer seats and \$20,000 to sit next to Jack Nicholson.

For those prices, I better get to start at quarterback, catch all the groupies after the game and drive away with an MVP trophy and a Cadillac.

What the hell are they thinking with these prices? I don't know who has \$20,000 just lying around, but I sure the hell don't, and I'm pretty sure you don't either. And instead of freezing out the fans who don't have the money – especially in these rough economic times – how about we lower some of the ticket prices.

Instead of all the owners fattening their pockets, and bitching and complaining the players make too much, why don't they decide to take a pay cut?

The reasonable fan understands stadium upkeep, maintenance, expenses and such, but what we don't understand is the profit margins some of these owners make off of losing teams. Don't charge me an arm and a leg and complain how your players make too much, so you're going to have a lockout.

Again, why force the punishment on the fans? The players have their money, they can do fine without for a season. But the fans who love the game, we get to miss out because you – the leagues and owners – decided you didn't make enough money. Well, I say screw you and your overinflated prices. Me and the gang are heading down to the local sports bar to watch the games in HD and have a few drinks. Are you coming or what?

Miller goes to state

Freshman Malea Miller tees off at BC's home tournament at the Riverlakes golf course on Oct. 25. The Renegades finished fourth. At the WSC finals on Nov. 8, Miller finished second with a two-day total of 151 and advanced to the State Championship.



BC misses the cut for playoffs

By Julian Moore
Sports Editor

Bakersfield College's volleyball team missed the playoffs after finishing the season winning seven out of its last eight games.

The Renegades most recent win came 3-0 against a lowly 0-17 West L.A. team.

BC ended the season with a second-place finish in conference with a record of 9-3 conference and 16-8 overall.

Before the win against West L.A., BC traveled to face then No. 1 team L.A. Pierce.

The Renegades ended up beating Pierce 3-2 (25-22, 20-25, 25-21, 17-25, 15-12), which was to be a quality win on the team's resume come playoffs selection.

Sophomore Mary Maiocco was working when she found out about the team's snub for playoffs.

"Well, our coach found out on Sunday, but I was at work actual-

ly, but I was checking my phone every ten minutes waiting for a text message," she said.

"My mom actually texted me first telling me we didn't make it, then coach texted me. I was really upset and well, just pissed."

BC felt the win against Pierce and their solid record would be able to get them in although the seeding has much to do with earlier tournaments.

"It all came down to how we did in the beginning of the season when we went to the San Diego Tournament and the L.A. Pierce tournament," Maiocco said. "We lost to teams that we could have beat probably now, and because of that other teams got to go even if they had a worse record than we did."

She was referring to the selection of 10 seed Golden West (9-12) and 14 seed Canyons (14-9).

Maiocco, being one of the more experienced players on the roster, had a feeling that the se-

lection could go either way.

"I don't want to say we had a gut feeling that we weren't going to make it just because I know how significant the beginning of the season was, but it was just kind of like a 'darn, but we beat the number one team' and I thought that would have been good enough," she said.

"In our meeting we had to say one thing we were appreciative

Bakersfield College right side hitter Breann Goodman slips a soft-touch kill past West L.A. middle blocker Krystal Diaz for a point during a match in the BC gym Nov. 18.

GREGORY D. COOK / THE RIP

for," she said. "Not only was I appreciative for my team but the experience they gained."

"I let them know, now you know how the season goes and how important it is to win in the beginning and keep up momentum throughout the whole season. Tournaments like that are very significant," she said.

3-3 start to season keeps hoops gung-ho

By Michael Morrow
Video Production Editor

Bakersfield College's men's basketball team has started the season with six road games and has a record of 3-3 with losses to Antelope Valley, Modesto and City College of San Francisco.

The three wins came against Oxnard, Orange Coast, and, most recently, Allan Hancock on Nov. 27.

Against Hancock, the Renegades won 92-84 and are building on the season led by mainly

freshman.

"A win is a win, and we needed one bad," said BC head coach Rich Hughes. "We won on the road with a lot of freshman and anytime you win on the road early, with this being our sixth game, and pull out a win, that's always good."

Hughes has said previously that this will be a battle tested team and he believes his sophomore leaders can help get the freshman where they need to be to make this a good season for the Renegades. But Hughes



RYAN GEORGE / THE RIP

Fullerton running back Kelvin York (3) makes a short touchdown run from the 4-yard line during the Golden Bowl played against College of the Canyons on Nov. 20 in Memorial Stadium.

did have his concerns about the team play.

"We have to shoot better. We're shooting in the 30th percentile for overall field goals and we're shooting 20 percent from three," he said. "We shot better at Hancock, but we have to improve upon that."

"To be in games, our defense has to improve; we're giving up 80 points a night and that's just not very good. We want to have them in the 70s, so we have a lot of work to do, but now is the time."

"We have to improve on that each week and hopefully by

Hughes was asked about the team's effort on the court, and he had mixed emotions about it.

"We're a small team, so we have to be able to out work people, and in the Fresno tournament we didn't do that," Hughes said. "In the Ventura tournament, I thought we did a pretty decent job with hustle points and things like that. We're always going to have to be high up on that meter as far as playing with a lot of energy and intensity."

"We have to improve on that each week and hopefully by

the time we get into conference we're playing harder than anybody."

Up next for the Renegades is the Antelope Valley tournament on Dec. 3-5, where BC will likely get a rematch against AVC and will play a strong Mt. San Antonio College team.

"In the Antelope Valley tournament we play Mt. SAC, who I believe is ranked No. 4 in the state right now, so it will be a good test for us," Hughes said.

"We have to get better and get right into it."

Fullerton, Canyons play bowl game in Bakersfield College's Memorial Stadium

By James Licea
Reporter

This year's Golden Empire Bowl, hosted by Bakersfield College and sponsored by Clifford and Bradford Insurance Agency, didn't involve the Renegades but did result in a high-scoring game.

BC made the Southern California Regional playoffs as the No. 4 seed and had to travel for its Nov. 20 playoff game against Mt. SAC.

Thus, the Renegades weren't able to play in the bowl game at Memorial Stadium but played

on the same day a few hours later down south.

"We had no control over that," said BC athletic director Jan Stuebbe, who attended the bowl game and wasn't able to see the Renegades play. "It's a shame, actually – this is the first game in 13 years that I've missed one of ours."

In the bowl game, the Fullerton College Hornets beat College of the Canyons Cougars 64-49.

While it didn't rain during the game, it did a little before. The field was left damp and the sky was overcast creating problems

for the events that would have usually taken place during half time.

"It's a great game," Stuebbe said of the Fullerton-Canyons contest. "We got a break in the weather. It's not raining."

While some fans traveled from out of town to cheer on BC at Mt. SAC, others came to the bowl game for the sake of watching a football game.

A few in the crowd of approximately 250 people who were from Bakersfield said they picked a team to root for by color and had little knowledge of either team.

Soccer season ends, coach praises team's good play

By Vincent Perez
Features Editor

While the Bakersfield College women's soccer team qualified for playoffs this season, the result was the same as last year's match at San Bernardino Valley College: a 3-1 loss and an end to BC's season.

Brittany Hunt scored the lone BC goal in the first half.

"We scored first early, but then they got three goals. It was 3-1 at halftime," said coach Scott Dameron, San Bernardino Valley (17-1-4) had goals from Angelina King, Araceli Sanchez and Ruby Leon, who scored in injury time.

Dameron spoke about the team's emotion and chances for scoring on both sides.

"We actually came out with a lot of energy – it was up and down," he said. "They had more chances to score than us on the day, but we had quality chances: they saved one off the line, and there was another one that was a last second save, so we were pushing the quality of chances to score. They just created more chances than us."

Dameron said about this year's match compared to last year's. "I thought we were a lot more competitive than last time. We were in it, it was just a couple of goals scored off set pieces, so give them credit for that."

He added that the conditions of rain and mud forced BC to change their tactics on the pitch.

"It doesn't lend well to our

style of play when we're trying to connect feet. It's hard to do that in the mud," he said.

Asked about the overall season, Dameron gave credit to his players.

"All season we were up against it – we lost so many people over the course of the season. Some of them were surprised that they were able to stay competitive and strong. That's a credit to people that kept stepping up and filling in gaps every time we had someone hurt – it's impressive."

He said about the loss, "They're all bummed that we didn't go on, but they're proud of what they achieved this season."

Dameron noted that BC has qualified for the playoffs four years in a row and said,

"I think there were only eight teams in Southern California that have done that, so that's a pretty good accomplishment on their part."

BC competes in the Western State Conference south region. Dameron said, "Southern California is a very tough region. Most of the top teams in the country are from Southern California. When you're competing against that, to say you're up there is big nationally."

Dameron talked about losing players for next season.

"We lose 10 sophomores this year – there's a lot of players left to replace. That's the next step: get right to work on next year."

Dameron noted that Kristina Garcia, according to Dameron, her chances for returning for the

next season depend on how far along academically she is.

On scouting for future players, Dameron said, "We already have been. The high school soccer season is coming up. You're always working on it – we've had a few players express interest so that's going to be a big thing for us, to make sure that we keep the level up because we have been creating bigger expectations. We want to find some people that are up for that."

Dameron said about the end of the season and overall, "In the end of the season, we were a little thin player-wise, but you can't argue with what they did – they had a great season."

BC finished the season with an overall record of 10-8-3 and an 8-4-2 in WSC south.

Column

NCAA system fails fans

By Michael Morrow
Video Production Editor

The NCAA's system is broken and needs to be fixed because collegiate sports just aren't what they used to be.

It used to be that you could watch a kid develop into a full player in college basketball and be prepared to take his game to the NBA. There once was a time where college football ruled from Saturday morning to Saturday night, but with the BCS not being a clear playoff system, college football is the most incomplete sport of all. Don't even get me started on that joke of a system that is NCAA college baseball.

Not having a playoff system that allows multiple teams to beat out whoever they draw just doesn't make sense. I know everyone uses the theory that the NCAA and the big schools make all the money, but with an organization like the NCAA, I doubt they couldn't come up with a playoff system that wouldn't satisfy everyone's need to earn.

Most fans want an elaborate 16-team super playoff format, when really all that is needed is an eight to 12 team system that will bring in enough revenue to share within conferences.

We wouldn't get Boise State going undefeated for two consecutive seasons without even playing in the so-called championship game. This year Boise was thought to have a chance to make that game, but on Nov. 26 they lost their first game in conference in that same time frame and are pushed out of the mix for a title. That's one loss in almost three years. One loss relinquishes their season to a waste. The same can be said for schools like Texas Christian and Utah, who are often in the hunt until a combination of the three schools have beaten each other out.

In basketball, it's all about March Madness and none of the regular season makes a difference to anyone now. Winning a championship is the demand on coaches on a yearly basis. There is no time to build a program over the span of your star player's college career because they're one-and-done gone in a year.

Now, you see a kid enter the league after just one year in college and he has to develop his jump shot, work on this, and work on that, when really he could have done that with three extra years in college. The NBA's 18-plus-one rule isn't a great rule, but it's understandable for what they are trying to accomplish. But it does put a strain on the NCAA to do something about their one-and-done problem that they have yet to resolve.

It doesn't take a genius to figure out, if you start taking away scholarships from schools and start bringing civil lawsuits against the players who leave early, it will change the culture of what is acceptable and what isn't.

Instead the NCAA just takes what it's handed rather than doing anything about it. We'll continue to be disrespected with conference re-alignment talks instead of playoff configurations and we'll continue to be disregarded as viewers of your diversion brand.

But just remember – the professional leagues are growing to almost year round and what you had last year, they have now.

RIP NATION "Do you think the Floyd 'Money' Mayweather Jr. vs Manny Pacquiao 'superfight' will ever happen? Why or why not?"

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

Compiled by:
Rip Staff



Aaron Richardson, basketball:
"Oh, yes sir I think it will happen. And I think Floyd Mayweather would win the fight anyway."



Scott Dameron, soccer head coach:
"That's a tough one. Too many promoters get in the way. I think if fighters want to fight, then yeah."



Mary Maiocco, volleyball:
"I think that maybe it will happen, but not too soon. And I think Mayweather would win because that's all I hear."



Brett Clark, assistant head coach:
"Eventually yes. I think they'll be past their prime when it happens. It'd be a good fight."



Trell Johnson, basketball:
"No. I think Pacquiao is scared of Mayweather. I got Mayweather all day."

Women's soccer team hopeful after victory

PLAYOFFS | Bakersfield College women's soccer playoff hopes come down to playoff seeding meeting at Fullerton College on Nov. 16.

By Vincent Perez
Features Editor

In Bakersfield College women's soccer final Western State Conference South match, they kept their hopes for playoffs alive with a 1-0 win at College of the Canyons Nov. 12. Renegade Brittany Hunt scored the winning goal off an assist from center midfielder Kristina Garcia in the 65th minute.

"It was a close game. It was 0-0 at halftime, and then we had talked about a few things we needed to try and create chances to score," said coach Scott Dameron.

"It was Kristina Garcia – she was the one who found the ball and put it to the spot, and Brittany Hunt made a really good run. It was a smart and composed finish," Dameron added about Hunt's goal in the second half.

"Canyons was putting a lot of pressure on us. We weren't the controlling team at that time so it was good to get

that goal."

BC suffered a 3-0 WSC South loss to L.A. Pierce Nov. 9 in their last home game of the regular season that hindered BC's chances at making playoffs.

Dameron noted that the team was playing through illness and had made mistakes.

"We gave them too much time and too much space, but they're a good team."

BC sophomore Amber Beckham talked about the team's effort in the loss to L.A. Pierce.

"We started out well and worked together as a team – we had some struggles but overall it's a learning process, and we will learn from this and move on to the next game and hope for the best."

Beckham talked about the Nov. 12 game against Canyons.

"We're going to look back at what we did today and improve and take it to Canyons and just beat them," she said.

BC held onto a 1-0 WSC South win against Citrus Nov. 5. Renegade Brittany Hunt headed in the winning goal in the first half off a corner kick.

"This is our most complete effort," said Dameron. "I thought we did a good job at the end closing it out because they

had a couple of good chances."

Dameron commented about BC's defenders.

"They defended really gutsy," he said.

BC defeated L.A. Valley 4-0 Nov. 2 in Glendale in a WSC South match.

The Renegades (10-7-3, 8-4-2 WSC South) learned on Nov. 16 if they would qualify for the playoffs, but as of Nov. 15, the Renegade Rip was not informed due to the Nov. 16 playoff meeting.

Dameron is hopeful of BC's chances of getting into playoffs. "It looks promising. Things could change slightly, but nothing will be official until Tuesday (Nov. 14)."

He added, "We just have to prepare like we are. If we're in, it's going to be an away game so we have to be ready to travel."

Dameron described the point-based playoff system.

"There's this point system, and depending on the higher the record of the team you play, the more points it's worth. If it's an away game, it's worth more than home – win, tie, or loss. You get a point value for each game, and you add them up and take the average. It's the top 16 teams that qualify."



ANNIE STOCKMAN / THE RIP

Amber Beckham of Bakersfield College (left) and Samantha Tan of Pierce College fight for the ball at BC on Nov. 9.

Player's passion not in question

KRISTINA GARCIA | Bakersfield College center midfielder looks to father for guidance in life.

By Vincent Perez
Features Editor

Kristina Garcia, 19, describes herself as the "silent type." On the pitch, the Bakersfield College sophomore lets her feet do the talking, playing center midfielder for the BC women's soccer team.

Garcia began playing soccer at the age of 10 due to her father signing her up for AYSO in Bakersfield. Garcia wears the number 10 on the field because it's her father's favorite number.

Garcia explained how her father influenced the sport for her.

"I wanted to play for both of us," she said, "since my dad never had the opportunity to play any sports when he was in

school because his family had to work – they weren't in good circumstances with money."

Garcia attended Golden Valley High School for three years and Liberty High School for one year. Garcia played soccer and ran cross country in high school.

Garcia said that when she had the opportunity to return to Golden Valley her senior year after a year at Liberty, she did so.

"I didn't hesitate or regret anything," she said. "They have been like my second family and I couldn't leave them there. That year we became valley champions, so there were no regrets."

When asked about her influences, Garcia referred back to her father, Jose Garcia, 41.

"He's always there for me," she said.

"He's coached me through my entire life. He always brought out the best of me and

really shown to me that there are no boundaries or limits of what you can do."

"He has always supported my goals and dreams," she said. "When I go through struggles at a point in time he always talks to me and gives me advice. He never puts himself before others."

Garcia is one of four siblings in her family: brother Albert, 22, and sisters, Elizabeth, 21, and Adriana, 17, who is a senior at Liberty. Albert played soccer and ran cross country, and Elizabeth played soccer throughout their years in high school.

While Garcia proclaimed her love for soccer, she said that she does not want a career in soccer.

"I just like to play it because I love it; I'm passionate about it."

However, Garcia would take a scholarship in soccer to a university and said that she is

hoping for that opportunity to happen.

Garcia did not play her freshmen year at BC due to her original focus at BC.

"I didn't play my freshmen year of college because I started doing culinary arts, because that's what I wanted to do," she said. "It took me a year to realize I wasn't over with soccer."

Culinary arts was Garcia's first major but she changed her major to liberal arts because "they don't get paid a lot," she said with a laugh.

Garcia sees herself in 10 years "hopefully married, with kids, teaching and catering," she said.

Garcia wants to become a teacher and wants to teach any grade from kindergarten through fifth grade and cater professionally.

In her spare time, Garcia said, "I like to cook, shop, and hang out with friends."

When asked about transferring, Garcia responded, "Probably to CSUB."

Garcia added that she's undecided about playing soccer for CSUB.

Being on the only soccer team at BC is significant in Garcia's life.

"It does mean a lot. It shows that you have other people supporting you even not just soccer also through life's problems."

Garcia described how soccer helps her.

"It helps me bring out the competitiveness in me."

Coach Scott Dameron talked about Garcia's transition into the women's soccer team.

"When she came around in the spring and said she was able to play, we were excited because we knew her," he said.

"She's got a great work ethic. In the center midfield she covers a lot of ground. She's a workhorse."

He continued to talk about how she played during the semester.

"With all the injuries this season, she's had tons of different playing partners," he said. "She's been that one, consistent thing in the middle. They way we play, that's the person that makes everything go."

Dameron mentioned her quietness and determination on the field, and he described how it helped the team.

"She's not super loud but she definitely wins people's respect with how hard she works."

"She's a physical player – she's skillful with the ball. She's a ball winner – you need people around the middle that aren't afraid to run people over and get the ball back."

"She's been very consistent. We're not ever worried if she's going to have an off game."



ANNIE STOCKMAN / THE RIP

Kristina Garcia plays forward against Citrus on Nov. 5.

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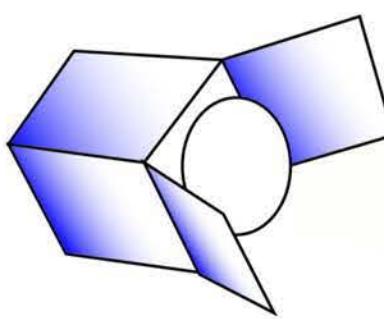
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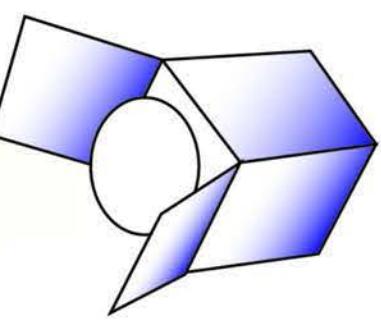
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THE SPOTLIGHT



Page 11

The Renegade Rip | www.therip.com

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Student thrives despite struggle

LIVING WITH CEREBRAL PALSY | Bakersfield College student Michele LuJan lives her life despite being encumbered by her condition.

By Kristen Blue
Reporter

Michele LuJan is a 22-year-old Bakersfield College student who has cerebral palsy and a learning disability. Through working out at the BC Gym with a BC instructor, she's served as a source of inspiration and improved her physical health.

Cerebral palsy affects her life every day. Not only do the physical aspects make getting around difficult, but even being a student she notices her condition affecting her.

"Appearancewise is a huge misconception," she said. "When you walk into a classroom and sit down, people see you as a disabled person and automatically assume you don't know as much."

With a learning disability, she feels it's just another reason to work harder. "Everyone has a struggle," she said. "This just happens to be my struggle. It just means I have to work harder to overcome it."

This is her third semester at BC, and LuJan says she currently has a 3.0 GPA.

"In high school, several people in the disabled program told me

I wouldn't be able to make it in a college setting. It just made me more determined."

Monica LuJan, Michele's younger sister who is also a BC student, noticed in high school people treated her sister differently because of her condition.

"She's not stupid," she said. "I hear people talk to her all the time like she's stupid. She's smarter than most people. We went to high school together, and I would see people not hold doors open for her, slam it on her. It makes me mad."

Michele LuJan noticed people treat her differently because of her physical condition.

"It's stressful. I feel like I have to work harder to overcome that immediate, first, initial judgment people make."

Even in public places, she's experienced discrimination. "When I was shopping for school supplies this semester, a little girl asked her dad why I was walking funny. I overheard her dad not to ask me, because I wouldn't know what I was talking about."

After having a foot surgery done, she made the decision she wanted to get in better physical shape. This is her second semes-

ter being in the BC Gym. Working with BC instructors, she has been able to make vast improvements in her health beyond her original expectations.

"When I first started I could barely do 10 minutes on the treadmill with no incline," she said. "Now I can do 35."

Kathy Moretti, a BC instructor, has helped her along with her goal.

LuJan said, "She really helps me. Now she constantly has to watch me because I'm always increasing my incline or speed."

The highlight of LuJan's days are spent in the gym.

"If I could work out all day in the BC Gym, I would be so happy."

Her fitness goal has turned into a passion. "I wish I could spend all my time working out."

LuJan hopes to inspire and encourage others with any disability or struggle with her story.

"I want people to see my condition and say to themselves, 'She did it, I can too.' I want to change that misconception people have."

By the end of the semester, she hopes to hit the five-mile mark on the treadmill.

"My confidence has gotten bet-

GREGORY D. COOK / THE RIP

Bakersfield College student Michele LuJan pauses on her way to classes to pose for a photo in the free speech area Nov. 3. Confined to a wheelchair when she first started at BC, LuJan now walks with the aid of a walker, and uses a treadmill for conditioning.



GREGORY D. COOK / THE RIP

Michele LuJan works out on the treadmill with the aid of instructor Kathy Moretti in the BC adaptive fitness center Nov. 3.

ter," she said. "I never thought I would be up on that treadmill. I had to be stopped the other day because I was going for my second mile."

By setting high expectations,

LuJan said she worked until she can achieve them.

"For any person who has a disability or struggle," she said, "find supportive people around you and hold on to them. For

any person who picks up this paper who has a disability, don't let anyone's misconceptions stop you. You'll never know what you are capable of."

Former football team doctor shares life experience



GREGORY D. COOK / THE RIP

Former team doctor Romain Pierre "Doc" Clerou sits on the sidelines of a BC football game Oct. 2.

By Mateo M. Melero
Magazine Editor

The private medical office of the former Bakersfield College Renegade football team doctor, Romain Pierre Clerou, is not unlike any other office. An LCD television is placed in the center of the waiting room, and the typical office fauna is placed all around, but as one ventures deeper into the office one will find the history of a man whose career extends well into the better part of a century.

Along the walls in the hallway leading to the patient

rooms are pictorial montages, consisting of posed photographs of him with former Renegade football players.

They span throughout the years and a hound's tooth style fedora is present within all of them. As he finished up with a patient, the doctor entered his office and sits at his desk. Before him lays an open book and a partly smoked Winston Churchill cigar. He spoke in short, to-the-point sentences.

"I'll be damned if I know, 1933 I think... 1943," said Clerou as he tried to recall the time spent practicing medicine.

Placed throughout the room are medical artifacts – well-worn leather doctor's bags lay on the floor next to the desk, stethoscopes hang loosely about the room and medical books decorate the shelves of the bookcase, opposite of his desk.

Although he is well known as the Renegade team doctor, Clerou was also a player once.

"I made all conference guard in 1935," said Clerou.

When asked how today's game compares to his day, the doctor said, "It was just the same."

After graduating from BC and then receiving his medical degree from UC Berkeley, Clerou joined the Navy and served with the 51st Seabees in WWII as a navy doctor stationed in the South Pacific.

"I was stationed in the Western Carolines, Ulithi and Saipan," said Clerou and, though the war was ranging throughout the world, the doctor went on to say, "We weren't in any battles or anything."

After completing his service in the military, the doctor returned to the States, taking up medical practice and serving as the team doctor for the

Renegades.

Throughout his career as the team doctor, despite the physical aggressiveness, the doctor said, "Never really had any serious injuries, fortunately, with football being the contact sport that it is. We were very lucky."

As for some of the players he treated, the doctor can be credited with treating the hall of famer Frank Gifford.

Though the doctor no longer serves as the team doctor, he can still be found at the games, sitting quietly at the bench, smoking cigars and watching the game intently.

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HONORING THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVED IN THE ARMED SERVICES

Kern County celebrates its veterans with a parade and candlelight vigil



GREGORY D. COOK / THE RIP

Members of the Independence High School Falcons marching band perform for the crowd along 21st Street during the Kern County Veterans Day Parade on Nov. 11.



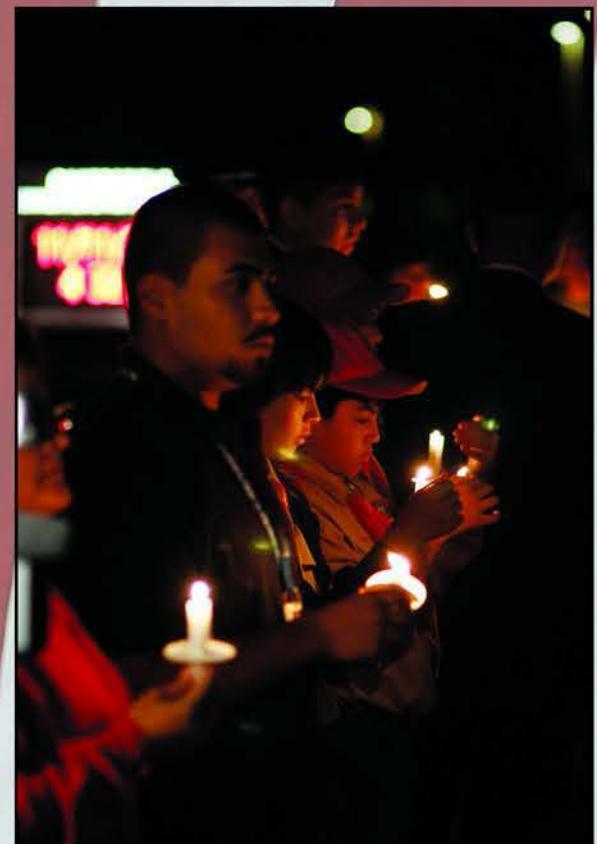
GREGORY D. COOK / THE RIP

Friends and family of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8809, Arvin, California reenact the raising of the flag on Mt. Suribachi over Iwo Jima on their float during the Kern County Veterans Day Parade on Nov. 11.



GREGORY D. COOK / THE RIP

Bakersfield Mayor Harvey Hall waves to people as his vehicle makes its way down the parade route.



GREGORY D. COOK / THE RIP

Attendees take part in a candlelight vigil at the Bakersfield Veterans Memorial on Truxton Avenue on Nov. 11.



GREGORY D. COOK / THE RIP

Participants light candles for a vigil in which the names of over 980 of Kern County's fallen heroes were read at the Bakersfield Veterans Memorial.



GREGORY D. COOK / THE RIP

Sgt. 1st Class John Aguilar (US Army ret.) carries the US flag down 19th Street during the 91st Annual Veterans Day Parade on Nov. 11. Aguilar served in Berlin in 1961 during the construction of the Berlin Wall.