



MICHAEL MORROW / THE RIP

Damian Robinson hits the weights during a team session before basketball practice on Nov. 1. BC is looking to add a sixth playoff berth in coach Rich Hughes' tenure.

Hughes aims at WSC title in sixth season

By Michael Morrow
Video Production Editor

The Bakersfield College men's basketball team is set to open the season on an eight-week road trip, playing in five tournaments and three games throughout the central and southern region of the state.

The Renegades first home game doesn't come until Jan. 8, when they face off against West L.A. Head coach Rich Hughes believes the road challenge will only make his team better down the stretch of the season.

"The most important thing is you want to win early, yes, to gain confidence – but more importantly, you want to win late, and we didn't win late last year," said Hughes. "If we hit a few road bumps early and it helps us to grow as a team, and that helps us grow toward the end of the year so that we can make another run at a state championship, then maybe that's what has to happen for us."

The Renegades start off the season at the Ventura tournament on Nov. 11-13 and follow that up against rivals Fresno City at the Fresno City tournament on Nov. 19-21.

Hughes mentioned how the team has the talent to win both tournaments, but, in his eyes, the Renegades lack the consistency needed to be victorious. A reason Hughes feels the team is inconsistent is the fact that they are a young team and only return three players from last year's team.

Guards Stevie Howard and Bart Dandridge along with forward Cooper Damron are the returners.

"I think always every year you're going to rely on your sophomores. Those three guys played minutes for us last year, some started off and on, we're going to not only need their experience, but their leadership to lead the freshman," said Hughes. "Basketball is like life; it doesn't always go the way you want it to, but it's how you respond to the adversity. And they've been through it, so them leading the freshman through 'the wall' will be really key."

Normally, after the first two away tournaments, BC hosts a Thanksgiving tournament the Friday and Saturday following Thanksgiving, but due to budget cuts and other lack of funding issues, Hughes and staff decided to cut the tournament and add another tournament at Antelope Valley College in early December.

Hughes talked about how he feels defending, rebounding and creating offense will enable the Renegades to win, not only in the early season tournaments, but also throughout the season.

"We have to be able to defend. We have to stop people from getting easy shots against us," said

Hughes. "When you press, sometimes you give some easy ones up, but this year's team, we have to be a little bit better defensively than we have been in the past, as far as allowing layups. We can't allow layups."

"We're a very small team, so rebounding is going to come from being fundamental and boxing out. We can't give up second shot attempts," he said. "We have to get the ball up the floor and create offense with our fast break and not necessarily taking bad shots, but trying to get numbers. Five-on-three instead of five-on-five, and I think this team has the speed to beat people down the floor."

Hughes is entering his sixth season as head coach of the Renegades, and is assisted by Aaron Chavez, the associate head coach who has been at BC since Hughes has been the head coach.

Together, they have had five 20-win seasons, five playoff appearances and one conference title. The Renegades had a rough outing in last season's playoffs, losing to Southwestern College and Hughes hopes to make a strong push in conference.

Men's Basketball:

Nov. 11-13 at Ventura Tournament
Nov. 19-21 at Fresno City Tournament
Nov. 27 at Allan Hancock
Dec. 3-5 at Antelope Valley Tourn.
Dec. 9 at Porterville
Dec. 17-19 at COS Tournament
Dec. 28-30 at Allan Hancock
Jan. 5 at Citrus
Jan. 8 West LA
Jan. 12 at Canyons

"We've been at the top and in first or second in conference the last five years, with Citrus being at the top the past couple years, but I always think we have a chance to win it. We don't have a lot of returners, but yet, a lot of the other teams don't either," said Hughes. "Citrus has a

couple returners back too, so we're hoping to be at the top again and hopefully steal a conference championship out of it this year."

Last year the Renegades went 23-6 overall, and 9-3 in the Western State Conference and Hughes talked about the wins the team had to have to be the team they want to be.

"We always have our natural rivals. Fresno is in four of the tournaments we're in, and we split with them last year, went 1-1, and they're always going to be a rival. We both have been close to the top in state rankings. When we get into league, obviously Citrus has had some very good luck against us," said Hughes. "We've come up on the short end of the stick on a couple of real close games in the last two years, so those two teams, like us are always battling to be one of the better teams in the state, and those are the type of teams that you have to beat to prepare for playoffs."

Of the 15 active players on the roster, six are from Illinois. Only five players are from the greater Bakersfield area, with three being from in town. The Renegades have no listed center, and two players that are six-foot-six, but the rest are all guards.

The Renegades lost valuable players like forward Bobby Fisher, and guards Skyler Vaden, E.J. Kirby and Ricky Wofford, but Hughes is confident and hopeful for this season.

'Up-tempo' Renegades look for stronger season

By Zak Cowan
Reporter

The Bakersfield College women's basketball team has been preparing for the new season, hoping to make significant improvements on their record from last year. During the 2009-2010 season, the team with 9-16 overall, with a record of 4-8 when playing against Western State Conference opponents.

Paula Dahl is the head coach of the team, and has high hopes for her team going into the 2010-2011 season.

"I'm really excited about my team this year," said Dahl. "It's going to be fun. [We are a] completely different team, with a completely different game plan," she said. "It's a new season and I'm just excited to see what we are going to do."

Dahl isn't worried about the small and young

roster.

"We don't have many players overall, with only two returning sophomores and seven freshman," she said. "But they're working hard, and I'm confident in them."

Dahl said that she isn't worried about her team

putting up points collectively.

"All of my starters can put the ball up, so there should be some pretty even distribution."

Dahl said that her team is an "up and down" type of team and expressed excitement about the up-tempo offense

they plan to execute.

"We're athletic, and we're going to run like we've never ran before. I've got some great post players, but we just want to run," she said. "We don't want to have to get into a half court offensive set."

Dahl said that she isn't worried if they get into those situations, since her team can handle it.

Women's Basketball

Nov. 12-13 at Hancock Tournament
Nov. 17 Moorpark
Nov. 20 at Reedley
Nov. 23 at Santa Barbara
Dec. 2-4 at Cuesta Tournament



MICHAEL MORROW / THE RIP

Women's head coach Paula Dahl gives her freshman center, Brooke Hood, some direction during practice on Nov. 1. BC opens on the road, Nov. 12-13 at Hancock.

Renegades elevate their game



GREGORY D. COOK / THE RIP

Bakersfield College setter Mary Maiocco sets a volley during a game against Glendale College on Oct. 29. BC swept the Vaqueros in three games 25-20, 25-15, and 25-20.

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Alumni return to BC for 50-year reunion tour

By James Licea
Reporter

After almost 50 years, former students of Bakersfield College who lived in dorms on campus came for a reunion and tour of the current campus on Oct. 23. Ex-students came from all over the country to visit the Bakersfield campus.

The tour began in the library, moved to the farm, admissions, then the Levan Center. After that, they took them to the Humanities building, the Child Care center, the indoor/outdoor theater, they went to the Horticulture Lab and came back around to Levinson Hall, which was the main attraction for the tour.

Levinson Hall used to be the women's dorm, and the men's dorm used to be where the Grace Van Dyke Library stands today.

During the tour, BC alumni reminisced about living in the dorms that used to be on campus. They talked about squeezing three people in a room that was meant to house two, jumping locked gates to get to the pool or the cigarette machine that used to be in the Humanities quad. They also spoke of pulling all nighters and the practical jokes they played on each other.

Ben Casey, former SGA presi-

dent of the fall of 1962, reminisced about the pranks. Casey spoke of a particular prank they played on the women's dorm where the men turned off the hot water while the women were showering.

In retaliation, the women called the men's dorm and pretended to be part of the U.S. Army, stating that they needed every able-bodied man to get their warmest clothes on and wait out front for a bus to pick them up.

Casey explained that this was during the Cuban Missile Crisis when President Kennedy was talking about going to war. Waiting out in the cold, Casey said they noticed the curtains of the women's dorm open up and, he said, "Every woman that was in the dorm was looking out at us, laughing."

John Wittig talked about how back then BC was the richest community college district in the state because of the oil money, and the equipment and student body budget surpassed UCLA's. He also talked about how the football team won the Junior Rose Bowl.

Ginevra Waterhouse and Bill Packer met while they attended BC and have been married for 48 years. About the campus, they said, "We've seen it grow, and it's really amazing to see the changes. It's to our amazement that it really

is still here, but it's not. Everything is kind of familiar."

Many things about the campus are different from how it used to be, but there are many buildings that still remain, Priscilla Aquino explained.

About the old campus, Aquino said, "It was a unique situation, you don't find dorms at community colleges at all anymore." The former Renegades went out to dinner after the event to further catch up on past memories.

Three former students who kept in touch over the years said they came up with the idea after meeting several years back. At first the idea was to gather together a group that would go walk around campus and see how different it is now. They ended up getting driven around by SGA in carts and getting a catered lunch, courtesy of the food department.

The alumni that organized the event were Aquino, Caroline Davis and Judy Cooke. Together they all e-mailed those they kept in touch with and contacted BC to get approval.

A letter was also sent to the Bakersfield Californian that helped get the word out. They said Patricia Rapp was especially helpful along with Amber Chiang and Becki Whitson.

SGA President Lisa English,



BRIAN N. WILLHITE / THE RIP

In a symbolic gesture, former SGA president (1962) Ben Casey hands over the gavel to current president Lisa English at Bakersfield College on Oct. 23.

General Counsel Sean Hill and Ramona Benavidez, a student assistant in CC4, led the tour.

English and Hill said Chiang and Cooke asked if they would participate in giving a tour to

former students via e-mail. This idea was one they were excited to take part in, "we felt this was a great opportunity to reach out to people who have been here in the past, and we looked forward

to helping them," Hill said.

Hill thought it was very interesting to hear the stories of the former students and listen to the similarities and differences of the campus.

Retrospective showcase brings 'nostalgia' to BC library art gallery

By Martin Chang
Reporter

Nancy Romero has an exhibit of her art at the Bakersfield College library. She describes her work as "grounded in mythology and anthropology."

Romero started her interest in anthropology in more traditional study. Yet she abandoned this study because of "dissatisfaction with the impersonal tools of anthropological investigation."

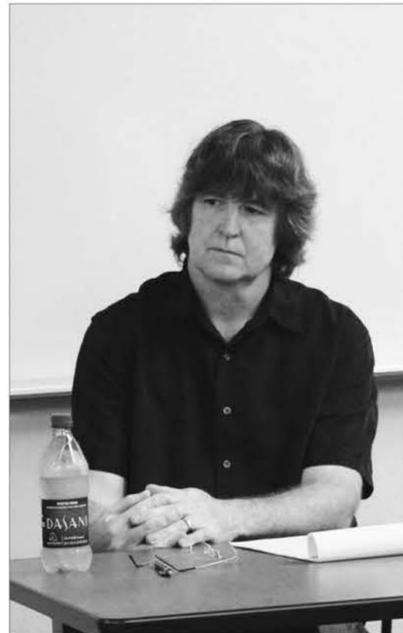
She described her work as "the intersection of Nature and Man." She also described her work as "about the rigidity of morality, the different views of what is deemed 'good' and 'evil.'" She has also done work based on creation stories. Romero said she was "fascinated by the contrast between the 'Before' and 'After'"

Romero said, "'Before' suggesting innocence, stasis, and 'After', movement, transformation and decay."

Romero works in several different media in order to match her "inner vision." She works with what she described as "old Flemish oil glazing techniques." She has also worked in tempera, gold leaf, and dioramas. Romero used these many media to bring "depth" to her work. She learned of these painting and media styles after she took a workshop from Syvana Barrett. Romero called the workshop "fortuitous."

Richard Villanueva, a student at BC, came to the exhibit and found the "three dimensional art" very "interesting" and "really cool."

Romero's work also gave Villanueva a feeling of nostalgia. "It gave me a flashback of my childhood of being a young kid. It almost gave me a nostalgia moment." Villanueva was also interested by the more religiously themed work at the exhibit. He said, "I think the most captivating thing is how it has the snake coming out of the tree here, and at the same time it has a skeleton at the top. It's kind of a symbol of death. I think it's my most favorite one."



PHOTOS BY JOSEPH COTA / SPECIAL TO THE RIP

Above: BC political science professor Steven Holmes listens in on the forum at the Levan Center on Oct. 20.

Left: Bakersfield Californian columnist Lois Henry speaks on ethics in the Levan Center at Bakersfield College on Oct. 20.

Levan Center hosts ethics debate

By Michael Wafford
Opinions Editor

The subject of ethics in politics was discussed in the Norman Levan Center at Bakersfield College on Oct. 20.

BC political science professor Steven Holmes, Bakersfield Californian columnist Lois Henry and Kern Community College District board of trustees member Pauline Larwood discussed the importance of ethics in politics.

Holmes focused on the importance of voting. "There is no doubt we are the most informed society in the world. But that doesn't necessar-

ily mean we are the best informed society in the world," said Holmes. The professor said that, while Americans have easy access to information about candidates and elections, about 50 percent of people choose not to vote.

Henry also spoke on voters and information. Henry discussed the media's role in informing voters, using examples ranging from former president Bill Clinton's infidelity to Zack Scrivner's past drug arrest. The speakers discussed the issue of how a politician's past can affect how voters view their credibility.

While Holmes and Henry focused on the importance of informed voting, Larwood focused

on the difficulty of finding truth due to mudslinging campaigns.

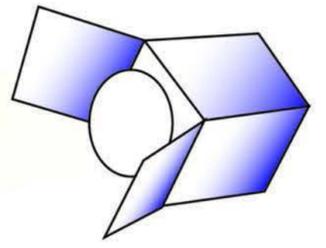
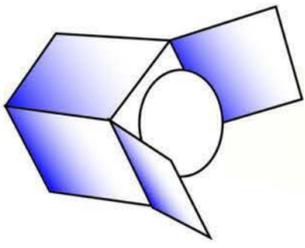
"We don't know what's true about anybody because things are slung back and forth," said Larwood. She also said voters tend to trust their own politicians. The speakers were well received by the audience.

"I really enjoyed it. It really opened my eyes," said David Watkins, a BC student. "We do have power to affect what the government chooses for our laws and regulations. Personally, I'm going to go back and look more in-depth into things I thought I agreed with - to make sure that I still stand with those decisions."

Coffee-induced hallucinations

By Samantha Garrett
Copy Editor





Local radio personality talks football

By Sandra G. Ward
Reporter

You may have heard him on Kern Radio News Talk, AM1180 during this season as the voice from the sidelines with his reports on Renegade Radio, a live radio show on Kern Radio that reports on all the Bakersfield College Renegade football games as they are happening; he's Matt Alvarez.

This 23-year-old student of Cal State University Bakersfield seems to be busy these days after accepting an additional position in the news department, reporting the early morning news for Kern Radio News Talk and doing it all while attempting to gain his Bachelor's Degree in Journalism from the University of Arizona.

Alvarez, who is originally from Bakersfield, has only been back for a few months as he finishes his studies at CSUB which will transfer over when he receives his degree at UA; he is also a part-time BC student.

With a knack for sports, it should come as no surprise to most that he grew up in a family influenced by sports, specifically football. Alvarez's father, Lorenzo Alvarez, has been an assistant coach for the Renegades approximately 24 years.

Alvarez gained his sideline experience growing up in his home and on the BC football field through the guidance of his own father's knowledge of football, which has transcended into his live reporting on the Renegade Radio show. He spoke of the times as a boy when he could hangout with the players and even became a water boy for the team.

"I think they really have a talented team. BC football is such a tradition; it's like a brotherhood," said Alvarez.

He first began his sports radio career at the UA five years ago reporting on the UA's women's softball team. This is his first season reporting from the sidelines on the Renegade Radio show.

Having a father who coaches football, Alvarez feels lucky to be able to grow up on the sidelines.

"I have been lucky enough to see some of the best junior college football teams that have ever seen action on the field."

As a sideline reporter, it's more than just the football to report, he also added, "It involves getting injury updates; it involves talking to the coaches at half time during post game; it involves doing and featuring things like talking about something that don't necessarily happen on the field; things like what's happening with the players during the week," said Alvarez adding that all of that adds growth to the broadcast.

While in college Alvarez not only reported on sports, but actually became an active hockey player. With such a major emphasis on football throughout his life a lot of Matt's friends that grew up with him do not know he even has an interest in other sports like ice hockey.

He picked up on playing roller hockey while attending school in Arizona and is something he now really likes to do.

Alvarez has a lengthy academic trail behind him. It began in Louisiana on a football scholarship. While attending school there, Louisiana



GREGORY D. COOK / THE RIP

Matt Alvarez comments on a play during a Bakersfield College football game against El Camino on Oct. 30.

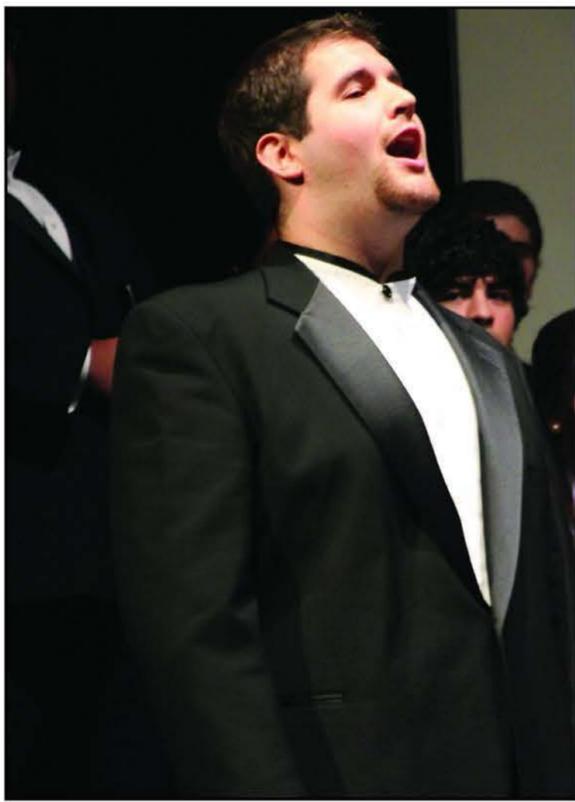
met with the devastation of Hurricane Katrina.

Still undecided about where his college path would take him, he took a trip to Tucson, Ariz. with his family and was

introduced to the UA and expressed how he fell in love with it there. He knew then that this is where he wanted to receive his education.

Though with the reality that Matt is al-

ready a working journalist, he expressed more pride in accomplishing his educational goals and is due to receive his Bachelor's Degree in Journalism from UA in December.



MARTIN CHANG / THE RIP

Soloist Brady Allred, a member of the Bakersfield College Chorale, sings a solo from the song "Sing unto God" in the indoor theater Oct. 22.

BC Chorale performs on campus



MARTIN CHANG / THE RIP

The Bakersfield College Chamber Singers perform during a fund-raising concert in the BC Indoor Theater on Oct. 22.

By Brenda Irene Rodriguez
Reporter

On Oct. 22, the indoor theater at Bakersfield College was filled with people to watch the BC Chorale and Chamber Singers perform.

Ronald Kean, director of the Choral and Chamber Singers, chose this concert theme to be centered on the idea of the healing power of music, and a lot of gospel music was performed.

The performance was dedicated to the victims of the 2004 Indonesia tsunami. During the emotional song "Requiem," a picture slide show was shown of disasters that have occurred around the world.

As the BC Chorale sang the lyrics, "Hear our mournful plea / Our world has been shaken / We wander our homelands forsaken," they brought tears to some of the audience.

Special guests were the Centennial High School Chamber singers. "We are honored, privileged and excited to share our music with the audience and to hear the choirs at BC," said Ray

Medina, choir director at CHS.

The CHS Chamber singers sang three songs to contribute to the concert.

"The kids were awesome. They were just great," said Diane Sterling after listening to the CHS singers.

"And this is why we sing," said Kean.

"The show went really well. Great display of the talent here at BC," said Brian Rathfelder, SGA vice president.

"It was great, very energetic, positive, and uplifting. Having a

high school here was great too," said Richard Newton.

Kean started the concert planning with one piece of music in mind, which was "Requiem," then continued adding more pieces.

All the funds earned from the ticket sales of the concert help each member of the BC Chorale pay for travel expenses to Hawaii in May 2011, to tour the Polynesian Cultural Center, which will enable students to see the culture of Polynesia through their song, dance, arts, crafts and food.

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