



# The Renegade Rip

BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE

Vol. 82 • No. 10

www.therip.com

Wednesday, October 6, 2010

## BC's E-Waste provides help with disposal of electronics

By James Licea  
Reporter

Bakersfield College partnered with Neil Agness' E-Waste Recycling to hold the first electronic waste-recycling event on campus Sept. 24-25. Businesses along with residents were encouraged to drop off any electronics, whether they were broken or not, for no charge. This process is ideal to keep these items out of landfills.

The event was held on the corner of Hally and University at the southwest parking lot. According to Amber Chiang, BC director of marketing and public relations, all e-waste must now be recycled since a California State Law that was passed in 2006.

"Consumer electronics contain low levels of hazardous metals that can contaminate soil and water," she said.

Chiang also shared that most American households are not disposing of their electronic items properly and that it is "one of the fastest growing segments of our nation's waste stream."

Many items that were discarded previously ended up in illegal landfills in various countries. According to Agness, the items that were recycled at BC will be processed at Alianza Recycling in Bakersfield.

The turnout for the event was more than Agness expected; several different companies came to discard their electronic materials. Some companies included Vineland School District, Rain for Rent, CalPortland Mojave and Richland School district. Truckloads of items were brought in at a time. Some companies had been storing their electronic equipment for over 20 years.

Around 23 pallets were filled on Fri-

Please see E-WASTE, Page 4



NICK FLORES / THE RIP

Jesus Garcia recycles his old and used electronics at BC on Sept. 24.

## Volkslauf returns to Bakersfield



By Breanna Gray  
Reporter

On the morning of Oct. 2, in a dirt field in what seemed like the middle of nowhere, 2,400 competitors prepared for the 14th Volkslauf ultimate challenge mud run.

Bakersfield College freshman Tracey Warren, completing his third Volkslauf, finished first in the 5-kilometer event.

Volkslauf, which raises funds for charity, also had a 10k challenge.

In just over 20 minutes from the starting time, Warren was wrapping up the end of the course as on-lookers watched as he climbed over bars and dived into a muddy trench only to climb out the other side, wrapping both his arms and legs around the rope to pull himself out of the pit.

Exhausted and reaching for ropes to help himself out of the trench,

Warren made it over the last hill and turned in his timing chip that was given to him at registration.

After finishing the three-mile run in 31 minutes and having the mud sprayed off of him from the fire hoses, the BC swimmer and first competitor to cross the finish line said that the challenge was exhausting.

"The hardest part was definitely the mud trench; I couldn't move in that thing," said Warren.

The thrill of competition motivates him to keep coming back and participate in the run.

He said, "I love the competition, being able to push through the pain, and trying to do my best. I'm so excited! I didn't expect this at all. I just came out to run and have fun, but I just caught the runner and then that was it."

The morning had begun with competitors ranging from high-

energy, Amazon-face-painted team securing their shoes to their legs with duct tape and giving each other tribal names, to the focused and experienced athletes warming up with pre-race stretches. The anticipation continued to grow as the day grew hotter and the start time pushed back further by an hour due to parking congestion.

For 12 years, Volkslauf was held across from Lerdo Penitentiary but was moved to Wings Way across from Meadows Field Airport due to the expansion of Lerdo's facility and end of Volkslauf's contract. The Bakersfield Volkslauf is organized by the Marine Core League and was originally started to raise money for Toys for Tots, but now contributes to many different charities.

Retired Marines built the high walls, deep water filled trenches, dusty trails and steep dirt hills

Please see VOLKSLAUF, Page 4



## KERN COUNTY FAIR INSIDE:

Special fair features on pages 6 and 7



GREGORY D. COOK / THE RIP

An overview look of the Kern County Fair, highlighting the night's neon landscape Oct. 3.

## Renegades lose to top-ranked Mt. SAC

By Michael Morrow  
Video Production Editor

After giving up a 58-yard touchdown from Mount San Antonio College's Nick Lamaison to receiver Richard Parham with 11:30 left in the second quarter, the Bakersfield College Renegades stared at a 21-0 deficit with more than 8,600 in attendance staring at them.

The Renegades brought the game to within eight twice at 21-13 and 28-20, but they couldn't get any closer, eventually losing to the defending state champs and nationally ranked No. 1 Mounties 34-20.

After two early second-quarter scores from Mt. SAC, the state-

ranked No. 2 Renegades drove the ball down the field and got their first points of the game with a 45-yard check down pass from Lyle Negron to running back Julian Dean-Johnson with 10:30 left in the second quarter.

Although Negron connected on that play, he missed on several others, prompting head coach Jeff Chudy and the Renegades to switch things up and bench Negron for backup Brandon Campbell.

"We were struggling all over the place, there were a lot of personnel issues. Obviously the quarterback position takes way too much blame and at the end of the day. We're trying to change momentum," said Chudy. "Momentum is a tough thing to get

in this sport, especially when you're playing a good team.

"When you're inconsistent it's hard to develop any kind of continuity, any kind of momentum, and we struggled."

Negron would go 5-for-15, while Campbell would end up 9-for-20, both with one interception.

BC's defense forced a fumble – recovered by John Oglesby – and put up three more points on a Josh Gallington 31-yard field goal to close the first-half scoring 21-10 Mounties.

The Renegades opened up the second half with a drive resulting in a 39-yard field goal from Gallington and then a defensive stand ending up with a missed field goal from Mt.

SAC's Jeremy Brown.

This sequence of plays had BC down 21-13 with possession in Mounties territory and the chance to draw even. The possession started with a 26-yard connection to Brandon Hobdy from Campbell, but ended with two incomplete passes and another BC punt.

The teams would trade touchdown for touchdown, then punt for punt leaving the score at 28-20 Mounties.

In the fourth quarter, with just under 11 minutes to play, Mt. SAC would add a field goal to make the score 31-20.

On the Renegades next possession, they burned their final timeout

Please see FOOTBALL, Page 13



GREGORY D. COOK / THE RIP

Renegade Andre Smith attempts to get around Mounties defensive back Steve Gallon in Memorial Stadium on Oct. 2.

# FEATURES

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Wednesday, October 6, 2010

## Okttoberfest brings German flavor to city



Christine Chrisholm and Jamie Flowers help sell beer and wine tickets during the second annual Bakersfield Oktoberfest at Stramler Park Oct. 2.

By Mateo M. Melero  
Magazine Editor

On the picnic tables located in the middle of Stramler park sat Thomas Meyer, a physics professor at Cal State University Bakersfield and a native German. Meyer, along with other locals, gathered Oct. 2 to partake in the beer drinking and polka dancing festivities featured at the second annual Bakersfield Oktoberfest.

Meyer, who came out to enjoy the festival with his wife, offered some insight into German culture and the traditions of Oktoberfest.

"The Oktoberfest originally was created in Munich, and it's actually 200 years old," said Meyer.

Originating with the marriage of Crown Prince Ludwig and Princess Therese in a meadow in Munich on Oct. 12 1810, the wedding and celebration was so well received that it was celebrated again the following year, eventually becoming a tradition.

Sipping on his beer as he talked, Meyer explained his preferences and a little about the beer being offered at the festival.

"Spaten is a beer from Munich

and [is] actually not my favorite," said Meyer. "I like the pilsner beer more, and they're better in northern Germany."

Though a wide range of German beers were featured on tap, Hofbrau's Orginal Lager, Paul-Aner's Salvador DoppelBock, and Spaten's Okttoberfest brew, Meyer went on to inform that there is a difference in the imports from the ones served in Germany.

"The German beer you get here is not the same one that you would get in Germany," he said. "It's an export, and they make it especially for exporting."

As Meyer talked, women wearing dirndls carried large 1-liter beer sloshing steins, drawing glances from the men as they walked around the event.

"You see [dirndls and lederhosens] more in Southern Germany than Northern Germany," said Meyer, "and you see it more in the small cities and the villages than in the big cities."

Polka music was provided throughout the festival by the Raving Polka Band and Anton Schnitzel and The Merry makers, but according to Meyer, there are not that many Germans who like



NATHAN WILSON / THE RIP

Patrons wait in line for the beer and wine ticket booth to reinflate during the second Bakersfield Oktoberfest at Stramler Park Oct. 2.

that kind of music. Meyer said, "Germans like rock and techno."

Throughout the day, the smell of cooking weisswurst and rostbratwurst sausages was present in the air. The lines stayed steady throughout the event as people complemented their hearty beer with just as hearty food.

"It's pretty good," said Meyer about the food. "The sausage was very nice." Later in the evening, games took place including a

stein endurance-wielding contest hosted by Matt Munoz from Bakotopia Magazine, and a safe beer chugging contest.

All around people could be heard chanting, "Zicke, zacke, zicke, zacke, hoi, hoi, hoi," and when asked if that is something actual done in Germany and just not popularized by The Man Show on Comedy Central, Meyer said, "Yes, they say that," as he said it to his wife with a smile.

## Walk to D'feet ALS a huge success

By Brian N. Willhite  
Editor in Chief

The 7th annual ALS Walk took place in Bakersfield on Oct. 2, in an effort to raise money to benefit local patients living with the disease.

Walking groups gathered to raise funds and support their loved ones as well as groups that walked to honor the memory of a loved one that passed away.

ALS, which stands for Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, is also referred to as Lou Gehrig's disease, named after the famed Yankees baseball player of the 30s that passed away from the disease.

People of all ages took part in the event that started at Riverwalk Park on Stockdale Highway.

Participants trekked along the Bakersfield bike path to the Elephant Bar, then circled back to the park where they were met with lunch provided by Coconut Joe's restaurant.

According to Stacy Inman, chairperson of the ALS Walk, between 400 to 500 people participated in the walk and mostly consisted of people from the 20 teams that participated.

She also estimated that about 60 percent of the teams walked in remembrance of someone that has passed away.

Inman participated in the walk with her group, Mike's Miracles, which is named after her husband Mike Inman, who has been living with the disease for 11 years.

Inman briefly discussed what ALS is, who it can affect and about how it affects the body.

"It's a terminal disease for everyone, so a lot of people don't know that any person, black, white, brown, yellow, man, woman, anyone, can get this disease."



Participants in the Walk to D'feet ALS walk down the bike path at Riverwalk Park on Oct. 2.

Inman noted that Bakersfield is one of the highest grossing cities in their chapter, which consists of 31 counties from San Francisco to the Orange County borderline and amounts to about 70 percent of the state, according to Angie Thorpe, the event's coordinator.

Fisher felt that his participation with the event and the organization are beneficial to him because of the support he receives and the strength it gives him.

"It brings hope to me, because I know that there are people that care about you. Because most of the time you feel isolated from the rest of the community, because people can't share your concerns, or your outlook, or your frustrations, or your hope for the future because they don't know what you're talking about," said Fisher before he added, "With the research, and the people's concerns, it kind of keeps the spark of hope in me."

The total amount raised at the event was \$25,996.55. The total amount raised for the year was \$68,979.55.

Walks to defeat are held across the nation in conjunction with the ALS association, a nationwide organization.

For more information on services, programs and support groups, including the Bakersfield support group, visit [www.alsala.org](http://www.alsala.org).

Within our chapter, which is called the Golden West Chapter, I think we're the second highest grossing walk, only behind Los Angeles County – that's the only county that raises more than us," said Inman.

One of the participants in the event was 63-year-old Marvin Fisher, who was diagnosed with ALS three years ago. Assisted by his family, Fisher participated in the walk in a wheelchair because of his condition progressively getting worse.

Fisher shared his difficulties as he discussed how he no longer has the ability to fully manipu-

late his arms and legs.

"I can't even button a shirt because the manipulation of my fingers is gone. It's the closest thing to being paralyzed that you can be," said Fisher.

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## BC students from across the world

By Breanna Gray  
Reporter

This semester there are 46 international students from 25 different countries all over the world attending Bakersfield College through the Study Abroad Program.

They create a diverse group with cultural backgrounds from countries such as India, South Korea, France, Japan, China, Venezuela, Spain, Niger, Slovakia and Morocco.

Students have ranged from recent high school graduates to current doctors who plan on furthering their education in America.

International Student Counselor and Coordinator Shohreh Rahman said, "If we can really encourage and reach one student, we can educate the whole village. That's the goal of [International Student Services]. We really want to have an educated world so that we can all live in peace and harmony together."

According to the annual Open Door Report, that same year, international students contributed \$17.6 billion to the United States economy.

Once students arrive to America, they are introduced to Rahman and attend two-day orientation right before the semester starts.

"I give them the whole picture of what BC is all about. I get them ready so they are not all confused and lost."

You guys know this as your home. For these kids this is their home away from home, so I want them to be totally ready when school starts," said Rahman.

During this orientation, BC faculty, members from the community and international students from previous years are invited to share experiences and inform them on how to do banking, how to find and rent an apartment and other everyday skills needed to thrive in the community.

Rahman also organizes

events throughout the year to give students and faculty the opportunity to exchange cultural experiences and mingle with one another.

These events include Cup of Culture exchange, workshops, instructor appreciation, and dinner parties.

In past years there has also been an International club, but this year Rahman has seen a lack of involvement from the student body.

She finds that with the current economy students need to spend most of their free time focusing on education and work.

International education programs help students develop long-term competitiveness through the understanding of foreign languages and the global market.

Such skills enable them to seek high-level career paths. Many leaders from around the world have studied abroad, which enhances society by creating a greater global unity.

"With today's economy you have to be very competitive with everyone around the world. If you don't understand cultures, countries, and languages around the world, then you can't be as competitive in today's society. We do not have Study Abroad [for BC students]. I am hoping that we will get the chance to do that. And because we don't have that, at this time, the only way and chance to learn about cultures of other countries is to bring them to us," said Rahman.

While international students are being educated on our campus, they are simultaneously educating local students.



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# Youth art sold for benefit



GREGORY D. COOK / THE RIP

Guadalupe Guillen, 9, poses beside his painting "Cow and Hat" during Artfest at the Moorea Banquet Center Sept. 25. Guillen also had another painting titled "Funky Cow" that auctioned for \$2,500.

By Sandra G. Ward  
Reporter

Inspired by the San Joaquin Community Hospital to benefit the Boys and Girls Clubs of Kern County was an evening of food, fine wine, art and entertainment at the 14th annual Boys and Girls Club Artfest at the Moorea Banquet Centre on Saturday, Sept. 25.

The event began at 6 p.m. and served as an entry into the silent and live auctioning of art created by local young artists active in the Boys and Girls Clubs of Bakersfield and the sale of other items donated to raise funds for all the clubs here in Kern County.

Guests enjoyed a strolling dinner catered by Champs BBQ & Catering and wine tasting compli-

ments of the seven different vineyard wineries who participated.

"This was our best year ever," said coordinator Ricki Foster.

One painting titled "Funky Cow" auctioned off for \$2,500. It was an art piece painted by young 9-year-old Guadalupe "Junee" Guillen, an active participant in the program.

Guillen's art piece and those of other kids enrolled in the Boys and Girls Club were the highlight of the evening's event.

Michelle Fregoso expressed her pride that night as the mother of one young artist, Lillian Fregoso, 11, who had her first painting done with the club displayed.

Other artists of the evening included Crystal Ramirez, 14, Robert Fajardo, 11, Anna Bales, 14, and the star of the evening, 17-year-old

Sean Guerra who won previous awards for his art and painted the signature piece for the occasion titled "Blue Bottle Still Life." Guerra has been with the program for two years, and he appreciates the experience he's had with the Boys and Girls Club in that time.

Mike Espinoza, program director of the Boys and Girls Club southwest location, was the master of ceremonies and announcer for the evening. Alec Sangster, saxophone soloist and a Bakersfield College music student, provided entertainment at the front door as the guests arrived.

As the evening unfolded, president of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Kern County Jason Cohen expressed thanks to all the many sponsors, board of directors and to

all those who came out to attend and support the Artfest at the ticket price of \$60 per person.

Another youth in the program, Olivia Charles, sang the national Anthem and received a standing ovation for her performance. The Boys and Girls Club youth choir also provided some musical entertainment as well.

Many guests attended the Artfest and among them were Bakersfield City Mayor Harvey Hall, who gave his comment on the event. "Caring for the less fortunate, caring about kids that need help with education – that's what the Boys and Girls Club does," said Hall.

"The community of Bakersfield is always tremendously responsive for turning out, and there is a great crowd here tonight," said Hall.

# Local station shares hip-hop with the community

By Brenda Irene Rodriguez  
Reporter

The Core Live is an online video hip-hop station that airs seven days a week, 24 hours a day.

The station had been in the works since December of 2009, but it officially began in August of 2010, with a goal to bring a community who loves hip-hop together and to bring hip-hop back to its roots.

The founders are Michael Urioste, Philip Zaragoza, John F.U. Randy and T.J. Espitio.

"The love for hip-hop inspired us to start this station. Our main goal is to bring hip-hop to its roots. We're just a group of individuals that love hip-hop, and we hope to bring the community together who love hip-hop," said Urioste.

Their motto is "on the air and everywhere."

The Core Live has listeners from Japan, Canada, Peru and the East Coast.

As long as people are able to connect to the Internet, they can view and listen anywhere.

The station is also viewable from the Droid cell phone, and next month it will be able to be viewed through the iPhone.

Unlike most radio stations that are edited by the Federal Communication Commission, the Core Live is not restricted, which allows the personalities on the air to be able to express themselves.

"Local radio stations don't give the DJs the ability to express themselves. We play what our listeners want us to play. Our listeners are able to communicate with our DJ online," said Urioste.

The Core Live also has a chat room that gives listeners the opportunity to communicate with each other, and the personality on air.

"We don't play the same song every hour, like most radio stations. It's what the DJ feels like playing or what is requested through the chat room," said Urioste.

"We're like a family," added Urioste

DJs from all over town are able to contribute and share their time with listeners.

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## News Briefs

**Clarification:**  
In the Sept. 22 issue of The Renegade Rip on page 5, an article titled "From Teacher to Director" neglected to credit the co-director on the film titled, "Goodbye Victoria." The co-director's name is Mathew Potter.

**Author Steve Lopez** will be speaking on campus about his book "The Soloist." those in attendance will also receive a free copy.

In the Fireside Room, there will be a presentation on Wednesday, Oct 13 at 10 p.m., 2 p.m., and at 7 p.m. in the indoor theater. The books will be available for students who attend the presentation at the library at 9 a.m. on Monday Oct. 20. Students should be prepared to show their BC identification cards.

"Struggle and Survival - Photographic Stories about the Power of Human Spirit," by photojournalist Brendan Bannon.

Photojournalist and artist Brendan Bannon will have a public lecture on his five-year work project in Kenya, covering life in Africa for the "Daily Telegraph." He will be speaking at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 6 at Norman Levan Center for the Humanities at BC. Admission and parking will be free.

Bakersfield College welcomes local employers for Career Day

On Oct. 7, employers will share information on their industry and career opportunities from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Campus Center.

The Kern Adult Literacy Council will be hosting their Read to Succeed Brunch at AERA Energy.

The brunch will showcase some of the council's most exciting and uplifting success stories. Please join the brunch to put a stop to illiteracy. The fundraiser will be held at AERA Energy, 10000 Ming Avenue on Oct. 21 at 9 a.m.

The Moliere Comedies will be presented by the Bakersfield College Performing Arts department in October.

The comedic performances will include three plays titled, "The Flying Doctor," "The Forced Marriage" and "Two Precious Maidens, Ridiculed." Performances will be on Oct. 6, 7, 8 and 9, beginning at 8 p.m. additional performances will be held on Oct. 9 and 10 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$5 and \$3 for students and can be purchased at the BC ticket office.

## Geeks Vs Zombies

The Empty Space Theater will be presenting a new comedy/horror play featuring the only guys who survive a zombie attack, are the guys who have seen all the movies. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. and the show starts 8 p.m. Shows are open on Oct. 15, 16, 22, 23, 28, 29, and the last show at midnight on the 30th. Located at 706 Oak st.

The 12th Annual Via Arte Italian Street Painting Festival will be coming back to the Marketplace again this year.

The festival will take place Oct. 9-10. Admission is free for the entire festival. Musical and theatrical performances are scheduled for the entire weekend.

Two themed haunted houses will be featured this Halloween at Sam Lynn Ballpark for the public.

C.C. Productions is pleased to announce Bakersfield's premiere haunted attraction, "The Chamber" and "Alien Invasion." Located at the Sam Lynn Ballpark, 4009 Chester Ave. at 7 p.m. on Oct. 8th. There will be two themes, "The Westchester House" and "Toxic Terror."

## BC hosts mental health awareness conference in Forum

By Brian N. Willhite  
Editor in Chief

Bakersfield College and the National Alliance on Mental Illness partnered to bring an awareness conference to the BC campus in an effort to educate students about the realities of mental health issues and how they affect the community and the families involved. The conference was held in the Forum, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Sept. 27.

The conference was titled, "The Power of Hope," and focused on spirituality and how it can strengthen hope for the individuals affected by mental illnesses. In addition to mental health education, attendees listened to testimonies from members of the community that have been living with, and are overcoming, their mental illnesses.

Russ Sempell, president of the Kern County Affiliate for NAMI, spoke about NAMI and the organization's desire to

educate students and put a face to transparent ailments that get overlooked by the community.

"This is a forum that allows us to have our members, like youth, family members and veterans that are coming to [BC] to tell their stories and how NAMI is available as a resource for the community, and, it's always free – nothing in NAMI ever has a charge."

Sempell further explained how NAMI's mission of "support, education and advocacy" is engaged in the Bakersfield community and also how they are a non-profit organization that keeps all of the money raised through fundraisers and donations local and solely for the people of Kern County.

"We're a local grassroots organization of a state and national organization, and Kern County is the local affiliate. What we do as an organization, that is all volunteers, is we provide free support and educational classes and conferenc-

es for people that have loved ones that have mental health issues or individuals themselves with mental health issues," said Sempell.

Though the focus of the message is to promote spirituality, Sempell said that it is not an attempt to promote any religion or religious ideology but rather to see spirituality as an opportunity to strengthen one's hope.

"We're not affiliated with any religious organization; most of our members are Christians, but not all. Some are atheist or agnostics and regardless of what people's religious position is, or not, we don't care – we're focusing on the power of hope and the need in every single one of us to never give up hope, regardless of the barriers and challenges they've experienced in life, including horrible medical conditions like schizophrenia or bipolar disorder," Sempell said.

Sempell illustrated his position about educating the community with an exam-

ple of someone with a visible, physical handicap as opposed to someone with a mental affliction and how they may be perceived in the community.

"When someone is a paraplegic, for example, an Iraq war vet who's lost his legs – an amputee – everybody knows and thinks, 'Oh man, he needs our support. He's got a challenge ahead of him.' But when they're invisible wounds like Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, you can't see them, they look normal and people think, 'You should be able to do something,' and people judge."

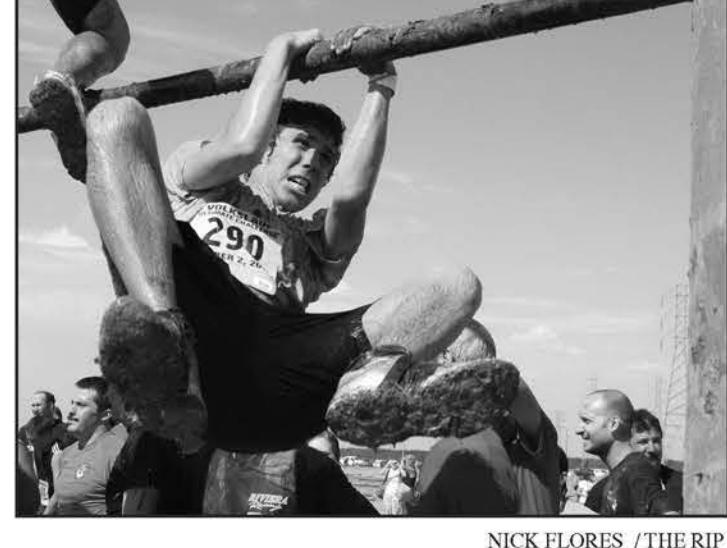
"So what this conference talks about is how we all have that desire to live the best quality of life we can with support – and religious support is OK too," Sempell said.

To learn more about NAMI's causes and their efforts to support families and individuals with mental health illnesses, visit the Kern County Affiliate's Web site at [www.namikerncounty.org](http://www.namikerncounty.org).



GREGORY D. COOK / THE RIP

Volkslauf participants struggle through the Tenaru River Crossing on Oct. 2.



NICK FLORES / THE RIP

Christopher Mount attempts to pull himself over the parallel bars as he races to complete the challenge Oct. 2.

## VOLKSLAUF: More good, clean fun in the sun

Continued from Page 1  
throughout the course that intimidated some and excited others as they waited for their event.

Michelle Caudill was growing nervous before her first time participating in the run.

She said, "I kind of just got talked into this by a friend. I usually do trail races, but I'm not sure about these obstacles."

While cousins Raul and Mario Gasman said they were excited about all the stunts as they looked up towards the rope wall they soon had to face.

Jamba Juice gave out free drinks to all the runners and also had their own team of runners who represented all four locations in town with employees from each store. Team Jamba was hyped up and ready to "rep[resent] a healthy lifestyle."

Team member Joshu Ramirez believed that there would be no challenge too tough.

"We are going to have each other's backs and work together as a team," he said. "We are going to conquer it all! With health!"

At 9:47 a.m., the 5k racers were called to start, and the crowds roared with excitement as the runners took their place. Before the race started a prayer was said to remind everyone that, for many out there, such a course is not seen as play, but life and death commitments and that we are all just one team of Americans.

After a few patriotic displays, Glen Pruitt, official race starter, began to pump up the crowd. He said that many people believed that they could not rebuild the mud run, and to them he said, "Don't ever tell a Marine he can't do

something!"

At 10:09 a.m. Pruitt sounded off the 5K event with a bang, which was immediately accompanied by the creation of a large dust cloud and cheering from both spectators and competitors.

The 10K events set off 15 minutes later, starting with individual males. Individual females, all male teams, military and law enforcement teams, all female teams and mixed teams were the sent off in twelve minute intervals.

Not long after Warren, the runners began to make their way out of the course.

Twelve-year-old Julian Irigoyen finished in 37 minutes after losing his shoes. "I lost them in the mud pit," he said while still catching his breath.

This year was his second year competing and said, "I like it because it's fun, but it's really hard to do."

Taylor, Kory and Joey Clifton have been competing as a family for the past two Volkslaufs. Taylor Clifton was first to finish before her younger sister and father. She prepared for the race by running at her high school and was excited for the competition.

"I feel pumped right now! It was awesome. The hardest part was climbing that wall," said Clifton.

When asked if there is any competition within the family, she said, "Yes! That would be me and him," as she looked over to her dad with a smile.

Kevin Kleinhenn won the individual 10k in 45 minutes, and Krisi Heriford won the women's division in 57 minutes.

Fruit, water and other refreshments waited at the finish line for the exhausted runners.



NICK FLORES / THE RIP

E-Waste volunteers at BC help to unload a truck filled with electronic waste from Shafter on Sept. 24.

## E-WASTE: Assisting residents

Continued from Page 1  
day and 30 on Saturday. They consisted of computers, printers, TVs, fax machines and several other types of e-waste products. A check was made out to BC already for \$360 for the amount of electronics that they were storing.

Agness stated that another check of over \$1,000 would be made out to BC after the event, which is a recycling rebate.

"This year alone we've probably done a quarter of a million pounds," Agness said.

They serve the Kern High School District, Panama Buena Vista District, and are planning an upcoming event on Nov. 6 at Taft College. For this event, Neil Agness E-waste Recycling is teaming up with Bob Hampton from West Side Disposal to hold an electronic and bulk waste event. Along with electronics,

people will be able to drop off old couches and mattresses.

Agness hopes to make this an annual event similar to what CSUB has been doing for the past five years. "Kern County is just starting to go green, but we have a long way to go."

Anyone who missed the event could also take electronic items to BARC Recycling on South Union Avenue or take them to the next event at Taft College.

## The spirit of Gandhi unites faiths together

By Ryan George  
Photographer

In the Fine Arts Auditorium on Oct. 2, the 13th Annual Interfaith Conference was held in dedication to Mahatma Gandhi on what would be his 141st birthday. The topic of the afternoon was titled "The Concept of God in the World."

With around 200 in attendance, the presentation was

opened with a reading of an introductory poem to set the context of the discussion as Professor John Stark, the master of ceremonies for the event, said. The poem, "The Flame of Freedom," by Vimala Thakar, was read aloud by an audience member.

A pamphlet given at the beginning of the conference said the poem is a "universal prayer" for all religions.

There were five speakers,

representing different religions and spoke about what their religions represent as followed: Prof. Vimal Chaitanya from the University of New Mexico, representing Hinduism, Father Perry Kavookjian, Christianity, Bakersfield College math Prof. Rafael Espericueta, Buddhism, Jan Casteel Fleury, Islam, and Jon Bergstrom, science.

"We have a concept of trinity in Hinduism, [we have one god with three powers.] the power of creation, power of sustaining, and the power of destruction. The power of destruction is not a bad thing because you need to destroy in order to create [anew]" as Chaitanya stated about Hinduism in relation to Christianity's Trinity.

Father Kavookjian mentioned the Christian's beliefs are based that "[Jesus] lived life as a Jew and prayed as a Jew... but Jesus also taught that you can have a personal relationship with [his] God, and that the basis of this relationship is mutual love."

Espericueta said that Bud-

dism "has no fundamental separation between the mundane world and spiritual realm. There is no god out there somewhere who is also the very core and essence of our own being."

"The same can also be said with regard to all sentient beings that may appear to be out there because all [beings are] deeply rooted in ones own heart at the level of power we are all deeply connected. It is as if we all have different bodies and minds, but one heart. To a Buddhist, god could be the one that peers out through all eyes and hears through all ears."

"Islam means the submission to the will of God. I am a Muslim, which means one who submits to the will of God... God promises he will listen to the prayers of [everyone] who calls upon Him... Muslims regard Islam as the completed and universal religion that was the original religion revealed many times and places before God created Adam. God knew the prophets Noah, Abraham, Ishmael, Isaac,

Jacob, Moses, and Jesus. But God's final message to man, a reconfirmation of the eternal message was revealed through the Prophet Mohammed" said Fleury on the beginning of the Islamic religion.

Bergstrom said during the ending question and answer segment of the conference on a question of "what is the concept of God according to science?" Which he replied, "If I stated a scientific perspective [on God], science would always try to insure that there is no certainty."

"Scientists would always assume there is more information to be gained and rather than in certain that there were [an opportunity] for a variety of views and for more information so I would say the scientific perspective would not rely on faith to believe in God but rather would be to be open to the God of all religions."

The Interfaith Conference was Co-sponsored by the Gandhi Alliance for Interfaith Harmony and the Behavioral Sciences Department at BC.

# After years of trying, students start club

**By Samantha Garrett**  
Copy Editor

Bakersfield College has, for at least the first time in several years, an art club. The idea originated from art instructor Emily Maddigan, and it was brought about this semester with the help of fellow instructor Laura Borneman, who is now the club adviser, and part-time instructor Claire Putney.

The main idea behind the club was to give students the means to present their art to the public, either in the Bakersfield area—if they stay after graduation—or in any other area where they might move. If there aren't enough opportunities available for the students, then, said Borneman, the students should "create more."

Vice President of the club Matt Macias talked about how that goal was important in guiding

his decision to become involved in the club.

"That's one of my goals," said Macias. "I don't have a place to show my art. I have the class, my parents, some friends, and then it ends up in a shed."

There have been previous attempts to start a club in recent years, but students had a difficult time making the club official.

Both Borneman and Macias pointed to Chris Ballard as being a key part responsible for the club forming this time around. He knew the proper channels to go through to have a club officially started, and he attends the required SGA meetings to keep the club official.

"I think that was the problem when they first started," said Macias. "It didn't really get off the ground."

This time they did, and officially doing so is crucial to

getting support from the community, such as participation in fundraisers.

The club is currently planning on having a table at homecoming Oct. 15, where they will sell various arts and crafts to raise funds for the club.

They are also working on a float for homecoming, and they are interested in doing a fundraiser through Rubio's, where they will receive 20 percent for every purchase attributed to the club.

The club plans to do many things with its potential funds, such as going on painting trips and having guest artists come in.

Borneman stressed how the students are really responsible for the club, and she really only is there as a figurehead.

"They're really running it. That's one of the important things," she said.



DEEDEE SOTO / THE RIP

Chris Ballard, art club representative, discusses possible fundraising ideas with Secretary Laura Opperman and Vice President Matt Macias on Sept. 27.

## Lessons not a drag

**NOTE** | This article is a column written by our magazine editor, Mateo M. Melero and will contribute a life-based column in every other issue this semester.

**By Mateo M. Melero**  
Magazine Editor

I never have been a responsible person. I procrastinate on all my homework assignments, all my journalism stories, and if it were up to me to save the world in a daring one-minute countdown till destruction scenario, I'd procrastinate on that.

What it is about me and why I can't care about something until moments before it all blows up in my face I've never been able to figure out. The fact that it is important and crucial registers in my mind, but I honestly can't give two craps until I absolutely need to. It has always been this way and I have always gotten away with it—until this summer.

I just started on what would become a four month-long (and still counting) quest to document the lives and habits of the drag queens at the Casablanca nightclub in downtown Bakersfield.

When I first started to attend the shows I was completely blind to the cultural habits and formalities of drag queens. Yes, in essence, they are men in women's clothes, but nothing in their attitude and personality suggest so. When in character, a queen is a woman and you treat her with all the respect and dignity that a woman deserves.

Candy Moore was the first show director I met. On Friday nights she puts on her shows, which always vary in theme. One night, a Madonna tribute show might be taking place, and, on another, you might find the girls commemorating the lives lost on 9/11. She is completely devoted to her craft and her love for it always shines through.

From the beginning, Candy has been nothing but a blessing to my quest and me. She has helped me with getting into the shows, granting me backstage access, and introducing me to other performers for the benefit of my story.

But, as I was to learn early on, Candy is not one to be disrespected or allow it.

After the first night, Candy informed me that the next time I came I would be granted with full access to the dressing room, allowed to photograph all that happens and talk to whomever I wish. I was hooked up needless to say and all that was required of me was to be there at 11 p.m.—I wasn't.

When I finally show up that night, god awfully late, I knew I was in trouble. Candy shot me a look when I first came that could boil blood, and I knew that I had some explaining to do. In an effort to diffuse the situation I went to the bartender and ordered Candy's favorite drink, which she accepted. At that point, I figured I've weaseled my way out of a bad situation.

The show ended and I found myself in the dressing room, chatting it up with the performers and acquiring essential material for my story. The time came to leave and I went to pay my respects to Candy and thank her, figuring my lack of professionalism had gone unnoticed—it didn't.

Candy stands at about 6'2 in heels. There is no hint of masculinity or barbarism in her at all. She radiates with all the glamour, sophistication and divinity of any queen in history. Her character demands respect, and if you were ever to disrespect her without proper cause, then the act would not be ignored or tolerated. Candy is proud and carries herself well. The moment she started to scold me, I tried desperately to spit out some excuse, but knew that being late because I decided to chug some vodka down with my neighbor wasn't good enough. Her eyes flared and that finger wagged in my face. All I could do was just sit there and take it. She schooled me on the importance of being professional, reliable, credible and all I could think of at the moment was that time in beginning journalism when the professor stressed the importance of those traits to the profession.

When she finished stressing her point, she told me that she was not without sympathy and agreed to give me a second chance, which I was very grateful for.

I left the Casablanca that night feeling low about myself but, as I began to think about it, I was glad that she called me on my bullcrap. It made me value the story more, and made me realize how my art form is valuable to people. Journalism, when done objectively, gives normal, everyday people the chance to explain themselves to a much broader audience. You don't hear much about drag queens in popular media, or in Bakersfield, and here I was giving people on the fringes of society a chance to be heard. I fell in love with the story at that moment and it's that which has kept me coming back.



GREGORY D. COOK / THE RIP

A Bakersfield College student uses one of the vending machines in the Campus Center on Sept. 30.

## Problems with the BC vending machines

**By James Licea**  
Reporter

Vending machines around campus provide students with a quick beverage or snack between classes, but they also cause occasional problems.

Companies responsible for filling the soda and snack machines are Coca Cola Co. and Canteen Vending. Both companies have contracts with BC and handle all of the money in the machines. The Food Service Department is paid commission from vending sales.

Jerry Troxel works for Canteen and fills the vending machines with various types of snacks weekly.

He says, however, that there are certain machines that are used often and need to be filled daily. Soda machines are also refilled once a week.

"Students have problems with the machines all the time," said Troxel.

Ashley Gober said that she had a problem recently when a machine had too many quarters jammed in the slot; she wasn't able to purchase an item.

Gober said that "within an hour or two somebody was there fixing it."

Students expressed that, with snack vending machines, items mostly just get stuck and don't come out. They also stated that

soda machines give them less problems; besides occasionally being out of service or of a certain soft drink they want.

Morgan Abendroth was shaking the vending machine in Campus Center out of frustration after he put in \$1.25 for a snack and it got stuck on the hook.

Along with many other students faced with this issue, Abendroth was not aware what to do if a machine malfunctions in such a manner.

Food service manager Alex Gomez explained that students who have problems with vending machines should come to the Food Service Office located behind the cafeteria near the loading dock, which is open from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. They will receive a coupon for a refund; coupons can be used on machines around campus and do not expire.

Machines require maintenance about every two months and students only come in every one or two weeks with problems, according to Gomez.

Despite some students' problems with machines, other students have never had any trouble with them.

One student, Audi Espitia, said that the only incident she's ever experienced with a vending machine is when it gave her two items for the price of one.

## Scantron Shortage

**By Samantha Garrett**  
Copy Editor

