



MEGAN LUECKE / THE RIP

Condors forward Eric Lizon (23) trips over goaltender Michael Ouzas of the ECHL All-Stars team in the pre-game skills shoot-out Jan 26.

Condors face all-star team

By James Licea
Copy Editor

The 19th annual East Coast Hockey League All-star Classic was hosted at Bakersfield's Rabobank Arena on Jan. 26. The ECHL All-stars won 9-3 leaving the crowd of Condors fans upset, but unsurprised.

An arena of 7,397 hockey fans attended the game to see the Condors go against the ECHL All-stars. Many Bakersfield residents came to cheer on their home team. Others traveled from various locations to see the 2011 All-star Classic.

This year's game took an unusual format from most ECHL All-star Classics. Instead of both teams being groups of all-stars, the Bakersfield Condors went against the best of the ECHL.

Prior to the game, a meet and greet was held at the Bakersfield Marriott ballroom on Truxtun Avenue, Jan. 25. Fans had a chance to chat with players, get autographs, as well as view the Stanley Cup and the ECHL Championship Trophy, the Patrick J. Kelly Cup. The Stanley Cup was also taken to the Pediatrics Unit at Memorial Hospital earlier in the day.

During the game the trophies were on display at the Condors photo booth. Fans lined up to get photographs standing next to the two trophies.

Various skill competitions took place at the opening of the event including, fastest skater, king of the shoot-out, hardest shot, and shooting accuracy. After the opening competitions, the

singing of the Canadian and American national anthems began the game.

ECHL All-star Mark Arcobello made the first goal 2:06 minutes into the game. This set a precedent for the rest of the period. All-stars Chris Langkow, and Ryan Ginand made two more goals in the first period. The Condors made no goals.

The game being held in Condorstown, some attendees were filled with contempt that their team was playing a group of All-star players. Others were simply joyous at the fact that they got to witness an all-star Classic in their hometown, along with getting a look at the Stanley Cup.

At the end of the first period, Condors fan Matt Elliot spoke of the control the all-stars had over the Condors.

"At first I didn't think they would [dominate], seeing how they're just a bunch of different teams thrown together into one," he said.

"I figured they might struggle a little bit, not having really worked together, but it's looking like they have a bit of an advantage."

Bakersfield Condor's remained goalless in the game until 1:28 minutes into the second period with a goal by Joel Broda, assisted by Barry Goers and Guillaume Lefebvre.

Condors fans cheered in the audience loyally at every attempt and completion of a goal and even took part in a massive wave that spread throughout the arena. Cheers were shouted by the crowd toward the all-star players with each of their many goals.



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Condors forward J.M. Beaudoin (27) defends against ECHL All-Star defenseman Josh Godfrey (2) from South Carolina on Jan 26.

The game continued in the same direction for most of the following two periods.

Two more goals were made by the all-stars in the second period and four in the third period. Some points in the game gave Condor fans a bit of hope, gaining two points in the second and one more in the third.

Actor Kevin Connolly made an appearance between periods along with Texas Rangers Pitcher and former Bakersfield College Renegade, Colby Lewis.

Pascal Morency scored the second point for the Condors with assists from Vyacheslav Trukhno and Brad Snetsinger at 17:32 minutes in the second period. The last point for the condors was

scored by Joel Broda 4:16 minutes into the third period, unassisted.

Stockton Thunder fan Jim Blair, from Lodi, traveled to see the all-star game and expressed his puzzlement about the format, "It's something different for me to see one team against the all-stars. When we had the all-stars game, we had all all-stars."

"It's different. I'm glad I came, so far."

Condors fan, Valarie Carrillo said, "it was exciting to see the best of other teams come and play against our team."

Carrillo felt that despite the loss, it was not unfair to put the Condors against a team of all-stars. "Our team is good; I think they could hold their own."

Column

Open Mike

With Super Bowl XLV being Sunday, football fans are excited about the matchup of two storied teams.

The Pittsburgh Steelers and the Green Bay Packers have had multiple championships and multiple Super Bowl wins. But this season the Steel City will walk away with their seventh Lombardi trophy, putting them two ahead of the San Francisco 49ers and the Dallas Cowboys.



Michael Morrow

Growing up in Chicago, I hated the Bears and got into the sport watching Brett Favre the gunslinger break just about every possible passing record available for quarterbacks. Naturally, you would think I was a Packer fan and would pick them to win it all this year. But the reason I think they won't is because the Packers haven't felt the wrath of how swiftly and thoroughly karma can come back to bite you.

After dumping Favre three years ago, the Pack went ahead with Aaron Rodgers at quarterback and tried to put the whole retired-unretired mess behind them. Meanwhile, Favre wanted to be released so that he could join the team of his liking, but instead the Pack did what was best for them and traded him to the Jets.

What a way to treat a record-shattering veteran. Aside from the debacle with the Jets and the retirement quandaries, Favre has been a model player for the league and I believe Favre will retire for good. And that bad karma won't allow the Packers to win the title this year.

The Steelers have a bit of karma working on their side. To start the season, many league fans counted Pittsburgh out, when two-time Super Bowl winning quarterback Ben Roethlisberger was suspended for four games after allegations of rape surfaced yet again.

On defense, the NFL's rule implementation cost linebacker James Harrison the largest fines on the season and made Harrison contemplate retirement.

For all the doubts the Steelers have had about Roethlisberger and for the fact that Harrison would like to stick it to the commissioners office for being told to change the way he plays the game, the Steelers have overcome major adversity and will be ready for this game.

Not only will they be ready, but the "us against the world" mentality will start to seep in and Pittsburgh will be on top of their game and dominate the Super Bowl.

My last key component to why the Black and Yellow will hoist number seven is the experience factor. Green Bay has two players that have played in a Super Bowl - defensive back Charles Woodson and defensive tackle Ryan Pickett - both failed to get a Super Bowl ring. The Steelers have been there before recently and have 25 players that have played in the Super Bowl.

The Steelers have a tremendous advantage and you just can't bet against that.

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BC softball team takes first game against Taft

By Kevin Foster
Reporter

Last Thursday the Bakersfield College softball team went on the road for the first game of the season against Taft College and won 7-0.

Freshmen pitcher Jessica Simpson, Julie Estep, and Annissa Carrender combined for a one-hitter. Laura Fox, Brittney Messer, and Jazmin Irvin all had two hits.

Infielder Danielle Ayer was injured during the game.

"As I was sliding into home plate I sprained my ankle. It's not too bad, the trainer said it's only mild, but it still hurts," Ayer said. "I should be able to play in the next game."

Head Coach Sandi Taylor is confident in her team's improvements over the offseason.

"We have been in a bit of a rut, but we have a lot of left-handed speed, depth at pitching, and we did a lot of team bonding in the offseason," said Coach Sandi Taylor.

"We will play every game our hardest and hope the winning comes our way."

Freshman catcher Kara Frankhouser commented on the team's transition from last year.

"With only four sophomores and the rest freshman you'd think this is a rebuilding year, but in our case we have all crossed paths during either club or high school ball," Frankhouser said. "Like our practice shirts say 'New year, New team, Same Dream.'"

"We host the state finals here and I definitely think we can be a part of it."

The three returners are third baseman Fox, outfielder Courtney McCormack, and pitcher Taylor Ward. Fox was second all-team Western State Conference last season.

One of the non-returners that Taylor was enthusiastic about was former Wichita State player Breanna Brown.

Brown had a .238 batting average and three home runs for the Shockers in 2009 before transferring for personal reasons.

"I expect to bring my knowledge about [Division I] softball to the girls and help them all become better players by pushing them harder," Brown said.

The team will host a double header against San Diego City this Friday, which is the one-year anniversary of the softball stadium being open.

"If you like fast-paced softball and speed then come watch our girls play," said Taylor.

Women continue to push for playoffs

By Michael Morrow
Reporter

The Bakersfield College women's basketball team picked up wins three through seven on the season all in conference.

After what looked like another tough losing season for the women, the Renegades have pulled to 5-3 in the Western State Conference South Division after beating Citrus College 65-61 on Jan. 29.

In nonleague games to start the season, the Renegades were 2-9 and playoffs looked grim. Now the Renegades are 7-12 overall and 5-3 in the WSC South.

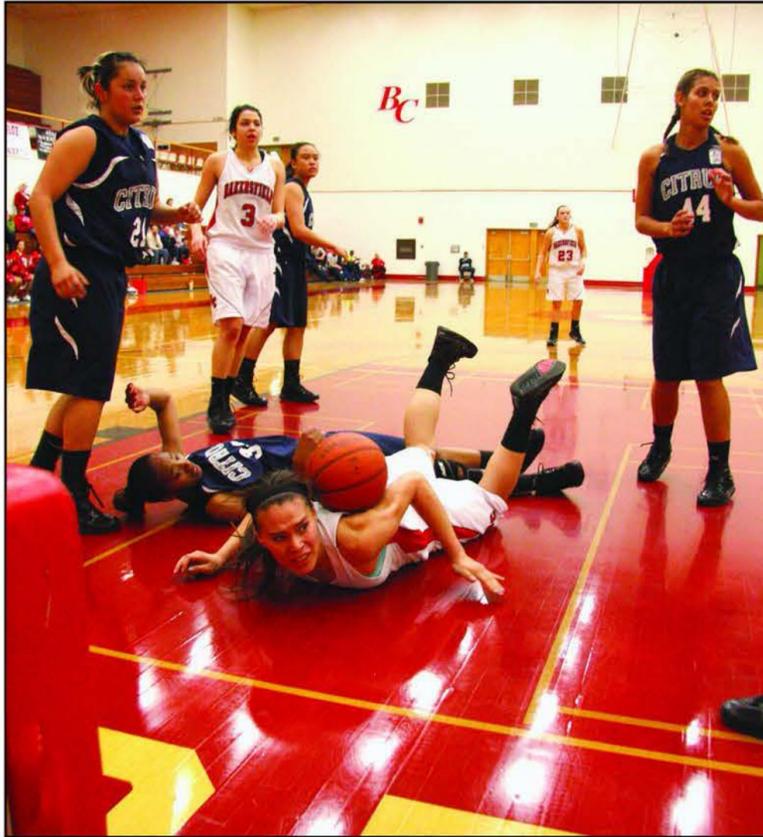
Gabi Morales, a freshman forward, mentioned what the difference was between league and nonleague games.

"Our team just finally picked it up and started playing together," she said. "All of our hard work is paying off."

Morales is second in league in scoring with a 17.1 points per game average and led the Renegades in the win against Citrus with 14 points, 13 rebounds, six blocks and six assists. Morales talked about the individual numbers and accomplishments.

"I don't care about all that stuff, because I couldn't do any of it without my team," said Morales.

Up next for the Renegades, is a game at West L.A. (1-6 in WSC South) on Feb. 2 and home against Canyons (7-0 in WSC South) on Feb. 5. For a sure shot into the playoffs, BC would need



Renegades forward Claudia Gonzalez hits the ground after a first half drive to the basket Jan. 29. The Renegades defeated Citrus 65-61.

to win out through the remaining five regular-season games and hope for some losses for Canyons and Citrus.

Without those losses, BC

will still need to maximize their win total and try to get a second place finish in conference in order to be selected by a committee.

Morales hopes for the best when it comes to making the playoffs and believes "getting into the playoffs would be exciting."



BRANDON BARRAZA / THE RIP

Bakersfield College point guard Dianna Roseburr turns the corner on the defender on her way to the basket in a game at BC Jan. 29. Roseburr had 14 points against Citrus.



ANNIE STOCKMAN / THE RIP

Katja Thacker of Bakersfield College returns an opponents backhand at a scrimmage against College of the Sequoias on Jan. 29. The teams' first match is Feb. 24.

Tennis ready for season

By Tyler McGinty
Reporter

The men's tennis team at Bakersfield College has a familiar face leading it this season: Rob Slaybaugh the new head coach.

After Regina Csibi-Krueger left to coach tennis at Cal. State Bakersfield, Slaybaugh came back after a three-year break from coaching tennis at BC.

The team still has until Feb. 3 to prepare for their first official match, and they're still playing practice matches against each other and training to see which order they'll play in for the singles matches.

Only four sophomores came back including the top two players from last year, Nick Jacobs and James Griffin, which makes over half of the team, new players.

One of these new players is Tim Donaldson, who placed third in the valley last year as part of a doubles team. Along with returning sophomore James Griffin, who made it to state last year with his doubles partner, BC has two experienced doubles players on the team this season.

Even though the team is most-

ly freshmen, Slaybaugh is optimistic about this season saying, "This year's team looks stronger than last year's."

Gene Lundquist, the coach for the BC women's team, is "enthusiastic and cautiously optimistic" about the 2011 season.

The women's team has five returning sophomores and, like the men's team, they are hard at work determining the singles order before their first game.

One of the new freshmen is Denisa Hronadkova, an exchange student from Slovakia who just graduated from Frontier High School.

Lundquist said the team has plenty of strong players, and they'd have to be to live up to last season's team.

Although they only placed fourth in the conference, the team was nominated for a Pepsi Scholarship Trophy, and the team had an average GPA of 3.29. "We're real proud of that," says Lundquist. "In addition to being athletes, they're good students."

The men's team's first official match will be at BC on Feb. 3 against Fresno City College, and the women's teams first official match will be Feb. 24 at Ventura College.

Swim teams start off season with WSC relays

The Bakersfield College men's and women's swimming teams are preparing for the Western State Conference relays, their first competition, which will take place in LA Valley on Feb. 18.

The women's team finished third overall in the conference last year, with the men's only finishing seventh.

The team's coach, Charlie Pike, is focused on getting the men to make a jump in those standings this season, and for the women's team to finish in the top three for their second straight year.

"I am sure that we are going to have a huge improvement on the guys' team," Pike said.

Another thing that Pike and his team are striving for this season is to get some swimmers to qualify for state, as last year not one made the cut.

For now the team is doing what Pike is looking for out of them.

"They've been putting in the effort," he said. "And if they keep showing up like they have been

... they'll get there."

Track and Field

The track and field program is currently in preparation for the upcoming season.

Dave Frickel, the men's track and field team's coach, is happy with the turnout of the team this year.

"We're looking at probably between 35 and 40 for the men and probably about 25 women, so that's a pretty good-sized group," said Frickel.

According to Frickel, the team is currently working on getting all the athletes eligible before they get into real competition, as well as getting the team into the shape they need to be.

He is looking forward to watching how the team can progress.

"I think we have some talent out there, so we'll see what happens as the season goes."

The women's track and field team finished third overall in the Western State Conference last year, and last finished on top in 2007.

The men's team ended the 2010 season fourth overall and last won the conference in 2000.

Men's Golf

The golf season is here and there are big expectations for this year's team.

With two of the better golfers from last year returning in Rufie Fessler and Rich Gilkey, the expectations are high.

Coach Bill Kalivas is expecting the team to challenge for the conference championship and to get the whole team into the regional, which is near the end of the season.

Some of the players that have impressed Kalivas so far are Dillon Russell, who had just finished his term in the military, his brother Daniel Russell and Tavaris Triplett have impressed with their abilities.

"I hope that we can have the top three best individual scores," Kalivas said. "For them to putt good and for them to hit the fairway good."

They play their first match on Feb. 7 at Canyons.

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Sterling Silver Dinner



GREGORY D. COOK / THE RIP

Playboy chef caters BC fundraising dinner event

A single rose in a champagne flute serves as a simple but elegant centerpiece for a table at the Sterling Silver Dinner in the Bakersfield College cafeteria Jan. 29.



JOE COTA / THE RIP

This dessert was one of the many dishes prepared by Chef William Bloxom-Carter.

By Mateo M. Melero
Reporter

Attendees to the third annual Bakersfield College Sterling Silver Dinner on Jan. 29 were shuttled from their cars in golf carts by student assistants into the lavishly decorated campus cafeteria, where throughout the night they feasted upon the culinary delights of Playboy Mansion Chef William Bloxom-Carter and the students and staff of the BC culinary arts program.

Music accompanied the dinner and fine wines chosen by event coordinator and BC Foundation head, Mike Stepanovich, were served.

Throughout the night Bloxom-Carter interacted with the culinary students, offering advice, stressing desired procedure, and offering words of encouragement as the students served the food they prepared.

"You guys are the professionals, they're the consumers," said Bloxom-Carter. "They're going to say 'What am I getting here tonight' and Chef Davis brings up a very valid point - you're here to make that person feel like they're the only person that matters in your life."

As the students hustled in and out of the kitchen, they were often offered words of encouragement from Bloxom-Carter, hearing often, "Smile when you serve the food, it makes it taste better."

BC culinary student Ainsley Fulton, earlier in the week prior to the event, said, "[Carter] makes you think five times instead of twice." Bloxom-Carter also worked with BC culinary students a week before the Sterling Silver Dinner.

During the dinner, BC Chef Suzanne Davis, acting as captain to the front-end servers, spoke on the importance and the rareness of the Sterling Silver event in a student's curriculum.

"We don't have any preparation for this kind of event," said Davis. "Usually we have a contained restaurant, the Renegade

Room, that is the only exposure they have to dining room stuff that they have. It is rare that we ever get an opportunity to do a banquet of this caliber on campus. Once a year, that's all we get."

When problems occurred, Bloxom-Carter initiated solutions. During the serving of the cheese course it was brought to their attention that more cold plates were needed. BC Chef Pat Coyle came into the BC Panorama grill to inquire on the status of the dish.

"You guys about ready to serve that or what?" said Coyle.

"No, you no what, we have plates that are in the walk-in, we need those out, but they're kind of warm," responded Bloxom-Carter.

"I told them to put them in the freezer real quick," said Coyle.

The plates were chilled in time and the Shaft Aged Bleu Vein Cheese Plate, with Toasted Marcona Almonds, Port-infused Figs, strawberries, and with Sauterne-poached Apricots, were served in appropriate fashion.

"Talking about the plate and the composition of the plate, you have to look at the balance of things as well," said Bloxom-Carter. "We try to go with odd numbers like three strawberries on the plate like we had on the quail dish; we had three mushrooms on the plate; three carrots on the plate. Visually, it's more pleasing."

When asked about the nature of working under banquet conditions BC culinary student Olimpo Alvarez said, "It's actually more relaxed. It's fun."

As the night wound down and students began to go home, BC culinary student Aviel Menchaca said, "I learned a lot. It was my first time serving as a college student. It was kind of hectic, but we got through it. It was a fun time. I liked it."

According to Coyle, the BC culinary program strives to present an environment that is as close as possible to a restaurant, but the Sterling Silver dinner of-



GREGORY D. COOK / THE RIP

Chef William Bloxom-Carter, executive chef of the Playboy Mansion, applies a lemongrass glaze to a plate of roasted lamb chop appetizers in the Bakersfield College cafeteria in preparation for the Sterling Silver Dinner fundraiser Jan. 29. Much of the food served at the dinner was raised and grown by BC agricultural students.

fers a more unique learning experience.

"In functions like this, we have a lot of students here, but they get to see the presentation, the plating, and the way things are cooked for banquet work. They don't get to see that every day in the Renegade Room," Coyle said.



GREGORY D. COOK / THE RIP

Playboy Mansion Chef William Bloxom-Carter (left) works with Bakersfield College culinary student Domingo Eskandan to prepare a vegetarian dish for guests of the Sterling Silver Dinner in the BC cafeteria Jan. 29.



GREGORY D. COOK / THE RIP

The Bakersfield College cafeteria is transformed for elegant dining for the Sterling Silver Dinner on Jan. 29. The annual dinner serves as a fundraising event for the Bakersfield College Foundation.