

News Briefs

CSUB lecture discusses Zen cartoons

Zen cartoons will be the topic of a public lecture by Richard Collins, Professor of English, founding dean of the school of Arts and Humanities at Cal State Bakersfield and published poet. The lecture will be at 7 p.m. on March 15 in the Seminar Room and is a free event.

BECA premiers 'chair project' during First Friday

BECA and Metro Galleries will be doing First Friday at the Downtown Arts District and this month will be the premier of the "chair project," an event where chairs designed by local artists will be displayed. The event will take place on March 4 at 5 p.m. in the area of 19th and Eye Street.

BC Performing Arts to present 'A Flea in Her Ear'

Bakersfield College Performing Arts is presenting "A Flea in Her Ear", a George Feydeau farce by Davis Ives. Shows will be at the BC Indoor Theatre, March 9-12 at 8 p.m. and March 12-13 at 2 p.m. Tickets available at the door or at the BC Ticket Office.

Flashback football game for high school alumni

Alumni Football USA is providing a full contact football event played with high school rules where former players are matched up with their top rivals. Only the first 40 players to sign up will be given spots on the roster and spots fill up quickly. All games will be played in March and the site is determined once teams are formed. Alumni Football USA has raised over \$120,000 for high school football programs. Sign-ups and details are at alumnifootballusa.com or contact Coach Hargrave at 888-562-0645. The fee is \$95.

BC gameroom closed until further notice

The gameroom located in the cafeteria has been closed due to students violating the no food and drink policy. The room will most likely stay closed until security cameras are installed, according to SGA.

Safe Space ally training on campus for anyone interested

Safe Space is holding a Safe Space training seminar to educate students and LGBTQ allies about providing a supportive environment for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, and questioning students on campus. The seminar will take place on March 2 in the Election Board Room from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Contact the SGA to learn more.

BC graduation deadlines rapidly approaching

The last day to apply for graduation is April 4. To begin the filing process, make an appointment with the counseling center.

City leaders speak to students at FLC

By Brian N. Willhite
Reporter

Providing knowledge and leadership opportunities for the next generation was the focus at the Future Leaders Conference held at Bakersfield College. The youth-oriented event was held in the Forum and was hosted by the Student Government Association.

The conference featured a line-up of community leaders and activists who encouraged the high school and college students in attendance to think about their futures and how they can be a leader in their lives.

Starting off the program was Bakersfield City Mayor Harvey Hall who advocated being a volunteer and community activist as a great way to earn leadership experience. He stressed that giving back to the community should be a character-building and rewarding experience that one can grow from.

Before closing his speech, Hall offered a few words to those in attendance who wish

to begin volunteering, "find it in your heart everyday to find something to give back."

The program also featured speakers John Hefner and Jack Brigham from the Center for Kern Political Excellence, which is a program of the BC Foundation. The non-partisan organization helps students find internship, volunteer and scholarship opportunities through local political institutions. They discussed ways that students can get involved with local government and noted some previous participants that successfully went through the program including state senator Michael Rubio and Bakersfield City Council members Rudy Salas and Russell Johnson.

Once a year CKPE also takes a trip to Sacramento to visit the state capital. The trip is open to any participants and will include up to 100 students.

Another focus of the event was to educate students on the importance of financial stability in their lives. Representatives from F.I.S.H., which stands for Financial Independence Starts Here and is an organization



MEGAN LUECKE / THE RIP

Jack Hernandez gives a speech at the Future Leader's Conference at BC on Feb. 26. The conference was held in the Forum and was hosted by Student Government Association.

through the United Way of Kern County, discussed programs that are designed to help students to save money through an Individual Account Program, or IDA. The initiative is a matched money incentive program for low-income students and allows them to receive \$2 for every \$1 saved, up to \$2,000 for a total of \$6,000 for approved expenses.

F.I.S.H. representative Jim Wheeler spoke about the IDA and how it works. Students interested would need to sign up for the program then fill out an

application to determine eligibility, then write a couple of essays and include two references – preferably ones who have a vested interest in helping the individual with their financial independence. The money saved must be used for any of three associated expenses: buying a new home, starting a small business or college tuition and related expenses, though it does not include the option to pay off student loans.

Wendy Wayne, another representative from F.I.S.H., offered

stories of experiences and words of wisdom for the students at the conference. She encouraged everyone to not only strive to be a leader in his or her community, but to be globally conscious as well through recycling and resource conservation. She also encouraged students to "pay it forward," or to think selflessly and to "believe in yourself, even if others don't."

To learn more about any of the programs or how to get involved, contact the SGA on campus for further direction.

Web site offers more choices to buy books

By Keith Kaczmarek
Reporter

Recently, there have been bakopost.com fliers around campus advertising the free Web site as a place for BC students to buy and sell textbooks. The site, only three weeks old, has even had an item in the Bakersfield Californian.

Reyna Olaguez, the co-creator of the site, explained the reason for creating another place to buy textbooks in a world with eBay and Craigslist.

"One of the main things to push us was finding out that BC students sell books outside and we wanted to do outreach there," she said. "It's really a site for you."

She then related a story about a friend who had sat for six hours in front of the Campus Center trying to sell three books, but with no success.

"It was something that was needed and my husband had the skills," Olaguez said.

Her husband, Hector Gutierrez, is also a Cal State Bakersfield graduate. Olaguez, on the other hand, has a bachelor's degree in political science from CSUB and is working on a master's in Public Administration there.

When asked how the site is different from sites like eBay

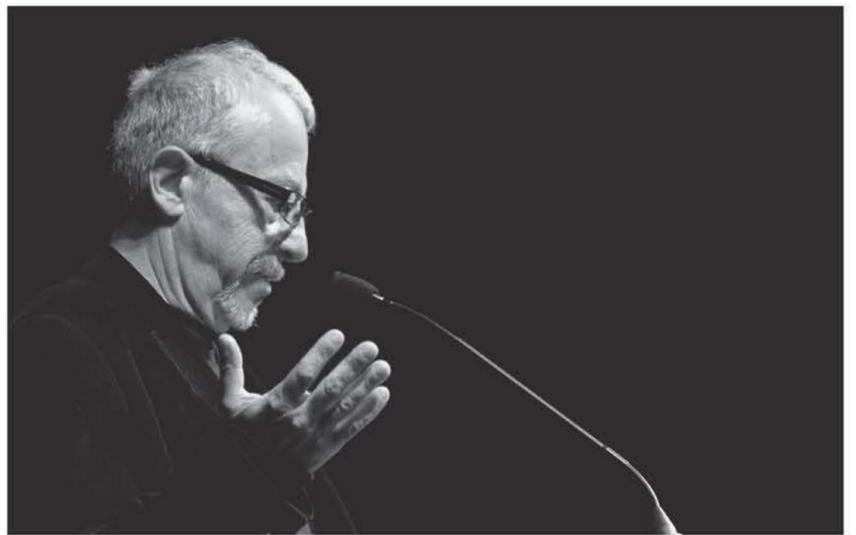
or Craigslist, she said: "It's different. You have to wait for your item [with eBay]. We are more community-oriented and local. [It is] not only to buy and look for textbooks, but for job opportunities."

Reviewing the site, you can see the local focus, as it only carries Bakersfield listings.

The site itself not only has textbooks for BC and CSUB, but listings for job opportunities and the sale of other items ranging from things as unique as an ultra-light aircraft to things as mundane as crates for your dog. The site also has a section for local rooms for rent and other housing arrangements.

When asked about her plans for promoting the site, Olaguez said, "We did print out some bookmarks and we were at CSUB and we are planning to go to BC and do a promotion campaign and we are planning to give out bakopost pins."

Olaguez also mentioned a desire to get more local businesses involved in posting job opportunities and internships for local students. The site, being only a few weeks old, has less than 20 job listings at the time of this article, but Olaguez hopes this will grow as students and businesses start to hear about the free site.



BRANDON BARRAZA / THE RIP

Andrei Codrescu lectured, "whose 'Global Village' is it?" at CSUB's Dore Theater on Feb. 22. After the lecture, Codrescu signed books and answered questions for the crowd.

Codrescu discusses 'Global Village' with community at CSUB lecture

By James Licea
Copy Editor

A lecture was held at Cal State Bakersfield's Dore Theater that had special guest speaker Andrei Codrescu, an author, poet, screenwriter, and National Public Radio commentator. The event was put on by Cal State Bakersfield's Kegley Institute of Ethics, which is currently celebrating its 25th anniversary. The lecture was co-sponsored by San Joaquin Community Hospital and the Norman Levan Center at Bakersfield College.

The topic of the lecture was a discussion about "Whose Global Village is it?" Codrescu stated the global village was a theory brought up in the past, which has since become more pertinent.

His lecture brought up topics including: advancements in technology and how they're affecting us and our culture, the positives and negatives of this "medium," as he refers to it, along with the state of the world we live in and how it's changing.

Codrescu made clear early in his lecture that he was not going to debate over whose Global Village it actually was.

The term Global Village was coined by a man named Marshall McLuhan, a philosopher who predicted a form of information would dominate our culture and "turn us into mindless slaves," as Codrescu put it.

Codrescu went on to say that some people saw the potential of a Global Village in the Internet, when it was originally brought about. Information available so effortlessly, was said by many to be the ultimate power and was thought to bring about a "Cyber

Utopia."

"The only barrier to universal harmony, as we saw it some years back, was ignorance of each other's culture, mores, customs and skills," Codrescu explained. "When everyone could participate in everyone else's wisdom, borders would fall away on their own and the narrow, nationalistic tribal impulses that led to war would just vanish."

There are also others, Codrescu explained, called Luddites, who saw this new found technology to be evil and believed that it enslaved humans to machines. There were many cases in history that they felt proved this to be true, the Industrial Revolution being one example.

Luddites also believed the advancement in technology was taking peoples time. Electronic products cost a great deal of money decades ago and time had to be dedicated to use them.

Codrescu explained that during the '90s, too much time was spent trying to understand machines turned into obtainable electronics that took no time to comprehend. Instead of having too little time, people started having a tremendous amount of time; work was faster paced making everyone a lot busier.

The truth, he said, is that time is the same as it's always been, but our perception of it is altered. What free time people used to possess, between careers or occupations, is now shared on the Internet, on facebook.

Codrescu stated that, "Human activity now consists of downloading and uploading, our sentimental and intellectual life takes place in public."

Along with our time being

shared, health watchers, Codrescu said, are connecting the Internet to various health issues. "Studies that link the Internet to everything from: blindness, obesity, carpal tunnel syndrome and plain old absence from human company are appearing all the time."

Despite these two theories, Codrescu spoke of the recent situation in Egypt where websites like facebook and Twitter helped bring about a change in their government. What really made a change, he said, was when the government counteracted and turned off the Internet.

Groups that were originally brought together by facebook had to go into the streets and band together to protest. This was a change, because the main form of protest today, Codrescu explained, is forwarding e-mails. Our generation has experienced three wars that had no actual protests, because everyone was too afraid of retaliation by the government. Instead they forwarded e-mails to protest the war.

The situation, he explained, could have easily gone a different direction. "A few months earlier, in Iran, when the tyrant drowned the green revolution in blood, they used internet postings to make a neat file of people to arrest and torture afterward."

He concluded his lecture with explaining a few of his personal experiences with technology and how our society has become so accustomed to relying on it for the most trivial tasks.

After the lecture, Codrescu answered questions from the audience, followed by a book signing set up by Russo's Books, which took place after the lecture.

BC clubs display their goods

By Keith Kaczmarek
Reporter

Club Week was a little tame this week, with only four clubs presenting tables for students, as well as a table for the US Army.

The Geology Club hosted a table with various minerals and rocks and sold tie-died shirts for fundraising purposes. Jesse Richardson, president, said that the club existed to raise awareness for natural resources and enjoy the outdoors. She would like Bakersfield College students to know that "we welcome everyone and we are very socially active and have lots of events," mentioning activities like their award-winning float for BC Homecoming and various hiking and field trips.

They have a Facebook group called Bakersfield College Geology Club and welcome students to connect with them there.

The Veterans Club presented a table selling flags and wristbands for fundraising and providing literature for vets. When asked about what they would like BC students to know about them, vice president Brad Crowley said, "we exist and we'd like to reach out to vets of BC that didn't know that we are here." He also mentioned the club's efforts to get a Veterans Center on campus, citing the huge number of vets on campus. They

have a facebook page for Bakersfield College Veterans Club.

The Theatre Club's table had several members recruiting for the new semester and member Alex Ramirez said, "we are really open to incorporate other people" and "we are really trying to get more students involved." He related past club events like performing for children's groups and retirement communities and the club's overall goal of improving the acting skills of its members. Students wishing to join the club should speak to the BC acting teacher Kim Chin or show up for meetings every Thursday at 4 p.m. in SAM 107.

Jamell Willey, president of the African-American Student Union, said that his club's main goal was the betterment of the self and fundraising to help incoming students. He said that people should join the club "if you are interested in making a change for yourself and stepping out into the shining light," also mentioning the club's focus on the next generation and various projects planned on campus. They meet Wednesday at 3 p.m. at the Campus Center.

Sgt. Ron Griswold was one of the U.S. Army members manning their table, and he wanted BC students to know that "we are a valued asset in helping them decide their future, whether it's the Army or not."

Staff Editorial

Athletics too much of a tradition to lose

There have recently been rumors around campus among students and professors that the athletic departments of all California community colleges could be in for some major cuts when the state budget is passed sometime this summer. Some are even saying that athletics could be wiped out all together at the community college level.

This, my friends, would be a huge mistake. Athletics have always been a big part of academic institutions, and Bakersfield College is no different. There have been numerous professional athletes that have come out of BC including Colby Lewis, a MLB pitcher and winner of game three of the 2010 World Series, and Frank Gifford, an NFL Hall of Famer.

All of this success and tradition has become the biggest symbol our school has, and no one should even think twice about taking it away.

Although BC's mission is, and should be, first and foremost to educate people, being part of a school body is so much more than that. It's about unity, honor and pride, and our athletics department helps our student body achieve that by showing what BC students are capable of if they work hard.

It is absurd for there to be any cuts to education, not just athletics, to try and save California's economy. Higher education is the best way to get our economy going, and California's community colleges are more important now than ever.

Chancellor of Community Colleges Jack Scott recently made a statement on the budget situation in Sacramento and how important community colleges are to California.

"California's economy is highly dependent upon an educated workforce and it's the taxpayer who is short changed when colleges and universities turn away students," Scott stated. "If just two percent more of California's population earned associate degrees and one percent more earned bachelor's degrees, the state's economy would grow by \$20 billion. Those educated workers would generate state and local taxes of \$1.2 billion a year and 174,000 new jobs would be created in California."

Comments to Jack Scott, but we as students, professors and coaches need to stand up against tuition being raised, classes being cut and athletics diminished.

All of this will not only hurt our economy, but it will also affect our traditions.

Who's to say that after they take out the athletics department, they won't cut all the community college journalism programs? What about every theatre program? Would we then stand up against it?

Let's hope so. All of these separate programs not only help educate students, but they also help students produce a sense of togetherness with their fellow colleagues.

Athletics are as important to our school as every other department on campus, and can teach students about health, teamwork, and integrity. When athletes compete against one another they are showing what we as human beings can do if we are steadfast in accomplishing our goals, and to take their outlet away would be all too wrong.

Bieber fever hype has no significance

By James Timothy Reporter

Canada has quite a few imports to our country. There's hockey, maple syrup, Kids In The Hall, and this guy named Jeff, a friend of my roommate who occasionally appears in my living room to sleep on my couch for several days, play Call Of Duty and challenge our dog Frye for the title of dirtiest organism in the house. All are generally harmless, but I'm leaving one important import out. Can you guess who he is?

He's got hair so perfect it's like a dove's wing, every time he opens his mouth all twelve-year-old girls within fifteen miles immediately explode into seizure-like fits of epic proportions, and he's made more money than I'll ever see before he's even hit puberty. Justin Bieber is the fresh face in a long line of harmless, bubblegum pop singing teen idols that Hollywood has placed on the altar of tweendom. Before 'N Sync and Backstreet Boys there was New Kids On The Block (who inexplicably had the nerve to name their suburban-white bread hit album "Hangin' Tough"). Before New Kids On The Block, there was

Michael Jackson, and then there was David Cassidy, and the list goes on. It's an unmistakable pattern and the template produces results.

The results are usually in the form of a seething, faceless mass of screeching preteen girls, crying and ululating and hoping desperately that their messiah will walk by so that they can demonstrate their devotion by brutally ripping his hair out by the roots, or clawing off a ragged patch of skin for a souvenir to bring home. It's terrifying really, if I had the option, I would rather face down a couple of murderers in state prison with nothing but a toothbrush than a rabid herd of bloodthirsty tweens. But I digress. In the past couple of days I've been reading a bit more about Justin Bieber than I care to admit. The phenomenon surrounding this boy is astounding.

I was impressed to learn that he actually writes (or co-writes) the majority of his songs, which sets him in a category different than your Britney Spears or your Miley Cyrus, whose songs are typically written by a combination of chain smoking forty-year-old male producers with soul patches and a nuclear-powered supercomputer built with the sole pur-

pose of cleverly arranging the words baby, love, and yeah in the most audibly charming layout imaginable.

Something about him is different. Setting aside the lunatic fans, there is the opposite side of the spectrum. Some people want this kid to die. Spend more than five minutes on YouTube and you'll ultimately come across a heated debate between "Beliebers" (no, I didn't make that term up) and an opposing force of those types of guys who can't get a date and instead spend most of their time on the internet criticizing movies and creating fake Facebook pages that make fun of victims of hate crimes.

You have to wonder what it is about Justin Bieber that actually inspires the impulse to spearhead a successful campaign to push "Justin Bieber Syphilis" to the top of Google Trends. In addition, countless rumors have been spread online saying that Bieber has joined a cult, or that his Mother was offered \$50,000 to pose in Playboy.

Even his music videos have been hacked to direct users to websites containing adult multimedia or to fake pop-up news articles reporting his death. I wonder if it's Bieber's lack of breasts that may be

dooming him to suffer constant defamation at the hands of ferocious Internet posters that never bothered to attack Spears or Aguilera back in the day. Is he really that threatening? Are they secretly attracted to him? I'm unable to ascertain the basis behind this vilification. Celebrity is a gift and a stigma that I'll never be upset to not have. Bieber is another cute kid in the long line of teen and preteen idols that stage moms and scrupulous producers have thrown to the wolves. He's harmless, but his fame has risen him to that point where he is fair game for whoever wants to devote their affection to him, or whoever wants to set his mailbox on fire.

As a culture so in love with the theatrical and the artificial, we welcome the disposable heroes so that we can watch them from afar, criticize them, and live vicariously through them.

Bieber, in my opinion, is not among the worst of the teen idols, for one thing at least he writes his own music. That's to be admired in a profession where everything is provided to the star. But someday he'll be gone and another will take his place. Or maybe not, I mean... He's so dreamy.



PHOTOS BY KAYLA BROADHAG / THE RIP

The fad has both men and women wearing similar jeans.

Skinny-jean look not so appealing

By Amber T. Troupe Reporter

Fashion is an ever-changing industry, with some fads that stay around up to date, while others drop away only to re-emerge years later during a newer generation.

Well right now the new look for men and young boys as well as women seems to be skinny jeans. I understand that everyone has their own opinions and choice of what to wear but I thought skinny jeans served a purpose. I thought they were made for skateboarders to make it easy to maneuver board tricks.

In the case of women and skinny jeans, if it is the appropriately sized figured woman then it looks good and on men it's passable. But if they are overweight



or what society considers being obese, then it is not appealing at all.

This is one fad that has gotten out of hand, everybody is not qualified to coast around in skinny jeans. When I tried out a pair, I felt like I was being stuffed inside saran-wrap like jeans. I automatically thought of an overstuffed hot dog and felt like the oxygen was no longer reaching my brain.

Some of these tight pant wearing youths, I truly feel it is ridiculous when you see a couple that are both wearing these circulation-cutting pants, holding hands sporting long hair. If you're behind them, it looks like two women holding hands. If that is the look you going for then awesome, but if not then maybe you males should rethink your apparel decisions.

Middle Eastern situation is an important history lesson in the making

By Gregory D. Cook Features editor

Half a world away, history is rapidly unfolding as we sleep. Newscasters and headlines describe these events as revolutions, and we, as Americans, instinctively celebrate revolutions. After all, that is how we won our own freedom, why shouldn't we support others who want to throw off the yokes of their oppression? But do Americans really fully realize the consequences of what is happening and how it might affect our lives here?

The demonstrations in North Africa and the Middle East are something the world has never

seen. Never before have so many people, in so many different countries been swept up in such a powerful outcry for change. In the last few weeks, nine countries have seen major protests from their citizens. At the time of this writing, two governments have been ousted, and a third, Libya, is teetering on the brink of collapse.

It is easy for us to view these events, in countries that many of us could not point at on a map, with a certain level of detachment, but what we are seeing on CNN today will be studied by our children in their history classes tomorrow. This unprecedented level of change can't help

but have a profound impact on the future not only of the region, but the entire world.

When we look at a map of Northern Africa, we see that the governments of three out of the five countries that make up the southern coast of the Mediterranean Sea have had their governments overthrown leaving the area in a very chaotic state. Nearly one third of the world's merchant shipping passes through the Mediterranean, and two-thirds of all of Europe's oil comes through the Suez Canal in Egypt. Chaos is bad for business unless your business is piracy. It is in the world's best interest to restore order and control quickly

to the region, or we could see history repeat itself in the form of a new Barbary Coast.

And of course, there's the oil. We may be living in the Information Age, but if you cut the world, it still bleeds oil, and the economic consequences of these revolutions should not be taken lightly. Tunisia, Libya and Egypt are major oil producers with Libya producing over a quarter of the region's exported oil, some 18 percent of the world's supply.

While the United States relies on a relatively small portion of that oil, we consume some 80,000 barrels of Libyan oil every day; China and Europe import most of it. When that supply

is disrupted, as it was last week, the price of all oil skyrockets, and we find ourselves paying more at the gas pumps. Should this turn into a long-term interruption, the effects on the economies of the world could be devastating.

While it is only natural to cheer for the millions of peoples that are taking to the streets of their countries, risking everything to overthrow their oppressive governments, and make no mistake, they have been oppressed. And they, like all people, deserve their freedom. That is the fundamental ideal of our nation.

But we should remember that unlike our American Revolution, these revolutions have very

few visible goals beyond casting aside their current governments. The masses of people taking to the street simply want their oppression to end, but then what? If our time in Iraq has taught us even one small lesson, it should be that in the absence of power, chaos reigns supreme.

The North African region has historically been a highly charged hotbed of very passionate political and religious idealism, and the dangers of control of such a geographically vital area falling into the hands of extremists, or remaining uncontrolled for any extended period of time is something the rest of the world can just not afford.

'GADE FEEDBACK "Who should Justin Bieber make his next collaboration with? Why?"

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

Compiled by: Rip Staff



Santiago Lazarit, undeclared: "Miley Cyrus because they are around the same age."



Taiyon Jackson, undeclared: "Lil Wayne because he'll make Bieber bigger because he's hotter."



Shelby Hannah, art: "The Backstreet Boys because I don't like either of them. Be' Be' be gone."



Brian Aguilar, radiology: "Alvin and the Chipmunks because they can harmonize well with their high-pitched voices."



Ivan Silva, English and psychology: "Lindsay Lohan because she can't sing."



Winner of the 2003 and 2008 JACC Pacesetter Award

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The Renegade Rip

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How to reach us

-Address: Bakersfield College, 1801 Panorama Drive, Bakersfield, CA 93305
-Phone: (661) 395-4324
-Web site: www.therip.com
-Email: ripmail@bakersfieldcollege.edu

Jimano's pizza tops in town

By Michael Morrow
Reporter

Jimano's Pizzeria is a slice of Chicago greatness. The reason why is the owner of Jimano's wanted the best possible pizza and found himself loving Chicago-style pizza. From the pizza, to the ribs and sandwiches, Jimano's is the king of the town.

The pizzeria, located on 9510 Hageman Rd. Suite A, offers pizza by the slice or whole pies with many options. There are several choices on toppings and several choices on crusts, from thin to double dough and deep dish to stuffed pizza. Toppings range from all kinds of vegetables to all kinds of meat, including Italian beef and Italian

sausage, which is a hard topping to find in town.

As far as original house pizzas, Jimano's makes most local favorites and some you may have never heard of. They offer, Hawaiian, Supreme, Vegetarian, BLT and a Meat Maniac, but also offer an Italian Beef Crowd Pleaser, Taste of Mexico and The Beast.

The Italian Beef Crowd Pleaser has Italian beef, sweet peppers or jalapenos. Taste of Mexico is covered with ground beef, tomatoes, cheddar and mozzarella cheese, onions, black olives and jalapenos. The Beast is stuffed with Italian sausage, pepperoni, Canadian bacon, ground beef, bacon, mushrooms, onions, green peppers and black and green olives.

Prices range from \$15.65 to \$31.95 depending on the type of pizza and size.

Being from Chicago, I've al-

ways thought Chicago has the best pizza and Jimano's clearly makes that case. The sandwiches range from \$6 to \$8.25 and vary in style from Italian beef and Italian sausage to BBQ beef or chicken parmigiana.

If you don't want pizza or a sandwich, Jimano's offers Chicago-style hot dogs, ribs (full or half slab), chicken wings, pasta and salads. Garden Salads start at \$4.99 and other chicken or supreme salads are \$7.99.

There are four choices of pasta to choose from. Meat ravioli, cheese tortellini, mostaccioli and spaghetti topped with a "made from scratch" marinara sauce. The chicken wings come with 10 or 20 wings in hot and spicy, mild or BBQ.

Jimano's also has plenty of extras, which include fries, fried mushrooms, onion rings, mozzarella sticks, jalapeno poppers, garlic, garlic cheese and pizza

bread.

The toppings also don't end with just pizza and sandwiches. You can make any combination of food items with any type of topping available at a cheap price. And as if the food alone wasn't enough, Jimano's has eating challenges. The Beast is a challenge that requires one person to finish a 12-inch by two-inch thick stuffed pizza covered in marinara sauce, while the Beauty is a one-on-one with a three-pound brownie topped with 12 scoops of ice cream, whip cream and chocolate syrup. The victorious eaters win a free Beauty or Beast and get an "I tamed The Beast" shirt. Only three people have taken down the beast and none have accomplished the beauty.

Overall, Jimano's has some of the best food in town, but there's nothing like that hometown feel I get from the city and there is nothing like real Chicago foods.



ANNIE STOCKMAN / THE RIP

Jimano's stuffed pizza The Beast is layer upon layer of cheese and toppings covered with dough and pizza sauce.

FOOD REVIEW

★★★★★

Justin Bieber movie and CD fail to live up to the hype

By Cristal Rodriguez
Reporter

Bieber fever has been in the air for a really long time, and doesn't seem to go anywhere.

I would say about half the world's population is obsessed with Justin Bieber, although it seems like an exaggeration, it's not.

Bieber's new movie "Never Say Never" was a total business success making 51.2 million so far at the box office.

I do not see the point of his movie. Everyone who is a true fan of Bieber should already know how his career started, YouTube, and who signed him, Usher, so this movie, in my eyes, was a total waste of money.

ALBUM REVIEW

★★★★★

MOVIE REVIEW

★★★★★

"Never Say Never- The Remixes" for all his lovely valentines that throw away their ten dollars.

I thought this was going to be the worst thing my ears ever listened to but I was wrong,

honestly this album was all right, thanks to the artists he worked with.

Chris Brown, Kanye West, Miley Cyrus, and of course, Usher were the artists that were featured on this CD. This album only had seven songs and thankfully he only had one by himself, the other was with Jaden Smith.

What I have to say for this album is that his voice goes everywhere for every song. I understand he's going through puberty but he could have went over his CD before releasing it and fixed a few things.

His voice to me is not all that, and I know that all these little girls who chanted in the movie theater "Bieber, Bieber, Bieber" are only into him because he is a cutie.

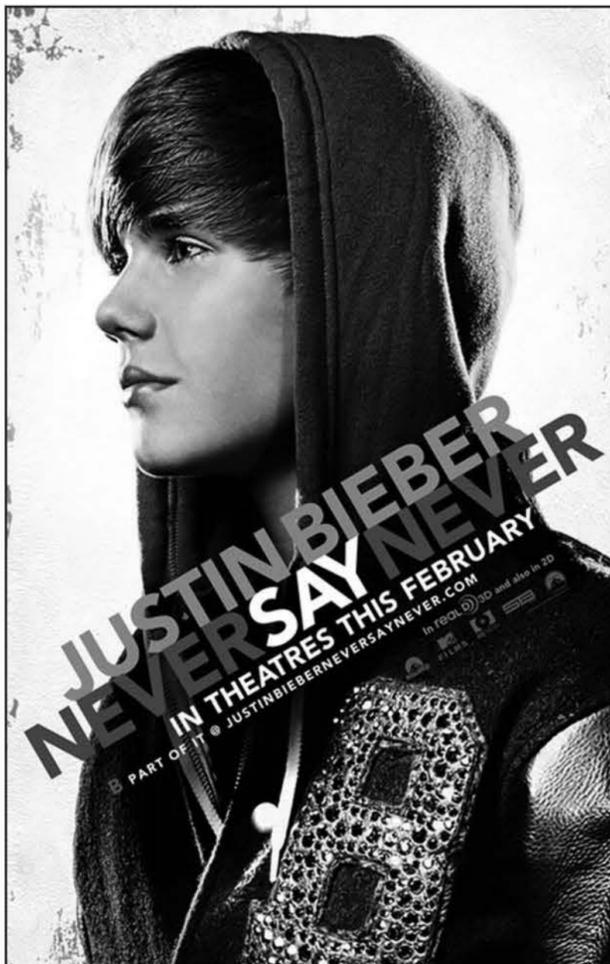
Boys, on the other hand, I have no idea and the only thing I can come up with is that they would love to have Disney channel star Selena Gomez as their girlfriend.

He is no Michael Jackson, Prince or anyone of the outstanding legends or performers the music industry has seen. He's just a teen who has the kids obsessed with him because of his sweet songs and his looks.

"Never Say Never" the movie was seen with the majority of the audience being kids and teens.

Plain and simple, Bieber is no mega star, soon to be legend or Grammy deserving artist. He's just a kid entertainer with a boring movie and an okay album.

I respect him for all his hard work and dedication but that's it. So please stop with the "Bieber Fever" because he's not a big deal.



COURTESY OF COLLIDER.COM

"Never Say Never" chronicles Justin Bieber's rise to fame.

Limbless Radiohead

By James Licea
Copy Editor

Radiohead's new album "The King of Limbs" is the first album the band has produced in four years. The album was independently released and is currently only available to be purchased by mp3. A disc will be available for purchase on March 28.

The album is eight tracks long and each song sounds exactly like the first minute of the first track: "Bloom." While the song "Bloom" isn't too bad, almost identical sounds dragging on for the duration of such a short album is too much for me to handle.

In their recent albums, the band has taken a different approach, trading in what was once a guitar sound for the sound of an electronic keyboard, creating different roles for each band member.

ALBUM REVIEW

★★★★★

The lyric content to each track had no real hook or chorus that stood out to me. From what I understood of the lyrics, none of the songs had any literal meaning, they're all symbolic of something that goes beyond my comprehension.

To me, this is nothing but meaningless poetry, not even done in a clever manner.

I tried listening to each track several times to find one that stood out to me; one to pick as my favorite from the rest. It was too hard. Each track had two similar characteristics that turned me off: the morbid, falsetto sound of the lead singer, Thom Yorke's voice and the slow, electronic beat in the background that reminded me of a slow paced techno song.

Bands have made gloomy songs in the past that were melodic and the tone of most of Radiohead's earlier albums was just that. They were very depressing, but at the same time they were catchy.

"The King of Limbs," travels to an entirely new type of depressing, with no catchy lyrics to be found. The type of feeling it did give me was mind-numbingly dreary in the most way possible. Every time I listened to it, I literally fell asleep.

What stands out the most in my memories of Radiohead is songs off their early albums. This is the kind of music I have come to love and expect from them, everything else disappoints me.

The band taking a different direction is great for them as well as die hard Radiohead fans, who I'm sure love their new album. It does nothing for me.

Storyline holds up pacing of 'Bulletstorm'

By Martin Chang
Reporter

"Bulletstorm," available for the Xbox 360, PlayStation 3 and PC, is a game which is not perfect and has many areas that could be improved upon. But despite these problems, the game is very fun.

"Bulletstorm" tells the story of revenge gone wrong. Grayson Hunt, or Gray, is seeking revenge from his former boss General Victor Sarrano. As a hired killer, Sarrano tricked him and his team, known as "Dead Echo," into killing innocents. His friend Ishi Sato, the only person left in his crew, had to become part robot in order to survive. The robot part of him is evil and threatens to take over his body.

They are aided by Trishka Novak who is only helping them to get off the planet alive and take revenge on Sarrano for her own reasons. Her origin is mysterious, and you learn about her

GAME REVIEW

★★★★★

throughout the story.

The game has been promoted as a gleeful piece of excess, but it takes a bit of time to get there. The game immediately turned me off, by playing the opening of the story a bit too seriously. It was jarring to have Gray say funny lines filled with four letters words, then see Ishi almost die. But by the middle of the game, I was invested in the story and found it thrilling and entertaining.

It also takes too long to get to the fun part of the gameplay. Before the leash and skillshots are introduced the shooting action is ordinary and too repetitive.

One of the defining characteristics of "Bulletstorm" is its in your face sense of humor. Every character has some dirty outlandish quip to say about the action.

Once I got used to the crazy dialogue I found it funny, but still annoying at times.

Between the skillshots system and the weapons given to you, it gives many ways to kill your enemies. The skillshots system gives you points for killing your enemies in creative crazy ways, like throw multiple enemies into



COURTESY OF EPIC GAMES

The main character Grayson Hunt fights a creature named Hekaton in "Bulletstorm."

spiked walls. Often you can do a combination of these things.

The weapons given to you are fantastic, from the grenade powered flail gun, to the four-barreled shotgun the Boneduster.

The feeling of seeing the body parts fly after you had killed them in mind-bending ways is sublime and brings a perverse joy that I found made a strong

impression. You have to be a specific person to find this fun, but if this sounds like a ride you want to take, it is a great ride.

It gives the game variety and you approach each group of enemies with sense of adventure, a feeling of "how can I kill them this time?"

The graphics are a frustrating mixed bag. The environments are at times beautiful. But the

character models are plastic and during cut scenes, this takes away from the drama. The game is also buggy with enemies clipping and one moment where you can get stuck.

Despite all its problems, I recommend "Bulletstorm." The combat is just too much fun not to recommend. If you can get into its in your face style, it is worth it for the fun gameplay.

BC BRAINS "What are the base molecules that form to create DNA?"

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



Terrance Taylor, welding: "Gender and chromosomes."



Justin Pool, history: "Glyamine, adenine, thymine and cytosine."



Jamall Willey, real estate: "Thing one, two, three and four."



John Villanueva, art and photography: "I know that a double helix form the actual base of it."



Teal Moe, music: "Thymine, guanine, the 'A' one and the 'C' one."

Compiled by:
Rip Staff



KAYLA BROADHAG / THE RIP

Denisa Hromadkova quickly returns the ball to the opposing team Fresno City College on Feb. 2.

Slovakian athlete finds home at BC

By Tyler McGinty
Reporter

Denisa Hromadkova, 18, came to America and spent her senior year of high school at Frontier High School as an exchange student from Slovakia. She decided to stay here in order to go to college and try for a tennis scholarship, and now plays tennis for Bakersfield College.

Hromadkova came here as a part of a foreign exchange student program, and although she isn't part of the program anymore, she still stays with her host family. "Exchange students usually stay for a year," Hromadkova said.

As part of the foreign exchange student program Hromadkova participated in, you don't get to pick the exact area you want to go to, just the country. Hromadkova wanted to go to America, and she wound up in Bakersfield.

Hromadkova found Bakersfield vastly different from Slovakia, especially her high school. "My high school [in Slovakia] had 1,000 students in the whole school," says Hromadkova. "We didn't have set schedules like you guys." Additionally, in Slovakia, most of the teenagers just took the bus but "in Bakersfield you need a car to get anywhere."

Also, high schools in Slovakia don't have school sports programs, and Hromadkova didn't play tennis for a couple years because of it.

"We have to do our sports like in our free time, we have to pay for it and everything and I

think it's better because you try more," said Hromadkova. "Here, it's practically for free and usually people start playing in high school and I've been playing since I was 7 and I think it's better."

Hromadkova started playing tennis when her dad heard about a new coach and asked her if she wanted to learn. "I was playing volleyball, but I like tennis more."

Hromadkova stayed in America to play tennis at college, and was supposed to go to Cal State Bakersfield, but she had problems with her scholarship, so she ended up going to BC where she studies biology.

"I don't want to move back to Slovakia, maybe somewhere in Europe," Hromadkova said about moving back home. "I miss my family and friends, but I visit them."

Her tennis coach, Gene Lundquist, always speaks very highly of her ability. During the match against Ventura on Feb. 24, she won the last singles match, bringing the game to a tie in what Lundquist called "the most thrilling match of the season so far. So I have to give her a lot of credit. She was up against a tough opponent."

Hromadkova pulled her hip muscle over the weekend after the match against Ventura, and she may not be able to play in the next game against Glendale Community College.

"I'm going to try to play, but I don't know if I can finish the match."

Tennis teams start slow

By Tyler McGinty
Reporter

Both men's and women's Bakersfield College tennis teams started their seasons with tough matches against Ventura County Community College. Although both teams lost, they didn't go down without a fight against Ventura, who was ranked number one in the preseason.

The men's team lost their match 9-0, which is surprising considering they won all of their preseason matches.

"We may have been a hair in awe of them because they're in our league and we know they won the state last year," said coach Rob Slaybaugh. "Even though we didn't win a match, the kids responded really well in singles, because two of the matches went three sets, and a few of the matches were really competitive."

The women's team did well against Ventura in singles, with each team winning three matches.

However, after BC won the first doubles match, Ventura won the last two games of the match, making the final score 5-4.

"It was a close match," said assistant coach Richard Faidley. "A lot closer than I thought I expected it to be."

"I thought Ventura would be a lot stronger."

Although Ventura won two out of three doubles matches, the matches were still very close.

"At first we were really down. We were down 4-1 at one time, and the girls came back to almost winning the match, but they lost that one 8-6, so it was a close set for number two doubles," said Faidley.

The final doubles match for the women's team had a line call made by one of the BC players overruled.

"It was a pivotal point in a pivotal match," said Faidley. "That didn't lose the match for us, but I think it was our girls' attitudes after the point was overruled, they got upset and didn't play as focused as they should have been."

Even after their defeat, Faidley still remains confident.

"It was a very close match. I think next time we play them, we're going to beat them."

BC will have a home match on March 4 against LA Pierce.

BC track team lands hard

By Esteban Ramirez
Reporter

On Feb. 18, Bakersfield College's track and field team had a meet here at BC with College of the Sequoias and College of the Canyons.

Even though the weather conditions were terrible, Canyons had a great day and took most of the events, but BC took a lot of events also and got a good contribution from Darien Moore who competed in the shot put, discus throw and the hammer throw.

BC also took the high jump thanks in part to George Robbins, who got up to 6 feet 8 inches in the event.

"I expected to win but I was surprised how well I did because there was some tough competition out there," Robbins said.

Robbins also thought his focus was laid back so it took the pressure off to perform at his best.

In the 800-meter run Ryan Taylor, a sophomore, took it with a come-from-behind victory with a time of 2:06.47. When asked about his comeback victory Taylor said, "It's my running style to pace myself and take the lead at the end." He also said he felt that that was his best 800 all year but felt that there was a lot more room for improvement.

The closest race of the day was in the men's 100-meter dash, which was decided by nine-hundredths of a second with Canyon's Davis Osmund able to hold off BC's Adam Clayton. Clayton was really frustrated with losing such a close race and the fact that the starter gun messed up at first. "I really thought I was going to win, but the gun messing up really affected me," he said.

Coach David Frickel said about his team's performance, "We did okay, I'm starting to see some real improvement from the throwers. I saw some improvement from Amanda Mosby. I also thought Darien Moore and Sarena Underwood had a good meet."

He thought that everyone did a good job dealing with the weather.

"I think we still need to get better in shape but I think the new people are starting to get adjusted to the tougher competition from the



GREGORY D. COOK / THE RIP

Dominique Cervantes lands in the pit as he competes in the men's long jump at the Bakersfield College Triangular Meet at BC on Feb. 19.

[Community College] level," said Frickel.

From this point on, BC will be in a lot more meets with schools from their conference.

The team will compete at Antelope Valley College on March 4 against Saddleback College, College of the Canyons and San Bernardino College.

After winning six of eight, women lose three

By Kevin Foster
Reporter

After starting the season off with a 6-2 record, the Bakersfield College softball team has lost three straight games.

This doesn't bother coach Sandi Taylor and her players in the least.

"We still have a bunch of games left to play, I'm not really worried about a little three-game losing streak, we just need to stop leaving runners on base and stop with the errors, and get back to playing our game," Taylor said.

"There is no such thing as a losing streak in my mind, I just play every game to the best of my ability regardless of the result," said freshman catcher Kara Frankhouser.

The first defeat was a road loss to Santa Barbara City College (3-1) on Feb. 17 by a score of 2-1.

BC got their lone run when Julie Estep scored on a double by Brandi Church.

The second loss came against Oxnard College (7-9) on Feb. 22 by a score of 5-3.

In the game against Oxnard, the Renegades were struggling at the plate with only two hits and no runs until the seventh inning.

In the seventh inning BC got five straight hits to mount a comeback to make the game 5-3. The comeback was short lived as Kaitlin Toerner grounded out to end the game with a runner on second.

Oxnard pitcher Michelle Getman had five strikeouts and retired the side in three of the seven innings.

"I guess I was just in the zone tonight, [Bakersfield College] was really good tonight but it was the pitching coach that gave me the good pitches to throw," Getman said.

BC was scheduled to compete in the BC Classic over the weekend of Feb. 25-27.

The classic was postponed due to traveling restrictions with the weather and would have been a seven-team tournament.

The teams in the classic would have included last year state champion Cypress, last year runner up Mt. San Antonio College, Sierra, South-

western, Cuesta, COC and BC.

Of the 12 games scheduled the only one that took place was a 9-5 win for Sierra College (4-4) over BC.

Sierra pitcher Ashley McMahon surrendered eight hits while striking out six batters.

"I had a great defense behind me to help when I let batters on, and Sheyanne [Sierra's catcher] was very vocal and helped me through the jams," McMahon said.

The bright side for the Renegades is the play of Frankhouser.

Frankhouser has a team high .500 batting average for the Renegades, and has the team's only home run. Frankhouser is fourth in the Western State Conference blue division in batting average.

"I do? That's news to me I really didn't know," Frankhouser said in regard to her leading the team in batting average.

"I don't really pay attention to personal stats, softball is a team



JOSEPH COTA / THE RIP

Kaitlin Toerner slides safe in the third inning on the Feb. 25 9-5 loss against Sierra College.

sport," Frankhouser added. BC will be on the road for a three-team event in Lancaster against Saddleback and Antelope Valley on March 5, and on

the road in Valencia for a double-header against Canyons on March 10.

BC will return home against Glendale on March 15.

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