

The Renegade Rip

BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE

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Strong start for Lady 'Gades

By Esteban Ramirez
Reporter

The Bakersfield College women's basketball team started off its season with a win at College of the Sequoias and then two more victories at the Crossover Tournament at BC on Nov. 10-11.

According to BC women's basketball coach Paula Dahl, there wasn't a champion and usually four teams compete, but due to a scheduling problem more

BC beat Allan Hancock 101-50 and Los Angeles Trade-Tech College 76-69.

"I thought we did awesome in the first game, but we had a tough night against LATTC. We showed some character to get that win," said Dahl.

"It was a total team effort against Allan Hancock, because the last nine minutes the starters didn't even play," she said. "I thought the bench did amazing, and we really focused on shutting down [Camille Zumbro] because she scored 37 points in her last game." BC held Zumbro to nine points.

"We just needed to consistently run against LATTC because whenever we ran we did fine, but we were also missing a lot of inside shots," Dahl said.

"I was impressed with our depth and that we didn't give up."

Dahl commented on how starting sophomore forward Gabi Morales played.

"I think she struggled finishing layups because she got hit in the chest, but she's a great kid and she worked hard," she said.

Morales, who had double-doubles in both games including

a 28-point and 13-rebound performance against LATTC, gave her thoughts on how the team played.

"We did really good against Allan Hancock and it was a good team effort, but I think we had a test against LATTC because they were more athletic, and we were tired from last night," Morales said. "That game showed us we needed to work on our defense and running our offense better."

She added that everyone feeds off each other and when someone does something good, everyone tries to do the same.

"I think I'm in a lot better shape and can play faster, but I think I still need to work on finishing layups and crashing the boards," she said.

Emilee Parks, starting freshman guard, commented on the team's performance.

"I think we did pretty well, we played as a team and worked really hard. I still think that we need to work on rebounding and boxing out though," she said.

The game was at 64-61 with three minutes and 33 seconds left when Toni McLin of LATTC was given a technical foul. After that BC was able to go on a nice run to finish the game.

"I think it motivated all of us to push for the win," said Morales.

The Renegades had their first game at the College of the Sequoias on Nov. 8 and they won 73-63.

They had big contributions from Morales, who had 13 points and nine rebounds, and Jausca Cockerall with 17 points, nine assists and eight rebounds.

BC's next home game is scheduled on Nov. 18 against Reedley College.

Basketball's Hot Start

Nov. 8 BC 73, Sequoias 64
Nov. 10 BC 101, Hancock 50
Nov. 11 BC 76, LATTC 69



GREGORY D. COOK / THE RIP

Renegades center Nikia Lee puts the ball up over Bulldogs guard Kadie Alexander at the buzzer to send Bakersfield College into triple digits during their 101-50 win over Allen Hancock College in the Gil Bishop Sports Center on Nov. 10.

Teaching students to be leaders

By Keith Kaczmarek
Reporter

Becky Bell, the creator and founder of Step Up!, a college leadership program, came to Bakersfield College to preview the program for BC's athletic program and the Student Government Association.

The program is focused on "people who step up," a tag line for intervention in problems that affect students.

"No matter the group, bystander intervention applies," Bell said during the presentation.

The program stresses the importance of student intervening in their fellow student's issue before they had a chance to spiral out of control, focusing on the leadership role of student athletes on campus.

"[The program] is for everyone," she said. "Everyone is in those situations."

Bell travels to at least five campuses a year and spreads the program to other campuses. Otherwise, she is the assistant athletic director in the University of Arizona and has directed the C.A.T.S Life Skills Program since 1997. She is also the author of "If I Had Known What I Know Now."

The issues that the seminar expected the program to address were alcohol abuse, hazing, depression, discrimination, disordered eating, anger issues, gambling, sexual assault, relationship violence, and academic misconduct.

Ryan Beckwith, BC's athletic director, expressed his approval of the program.

"It's huge," he said. "It becomes part of the culture, and in five years it's just the way you do things."

He then spoke about how the program could be valuable for student athletes.

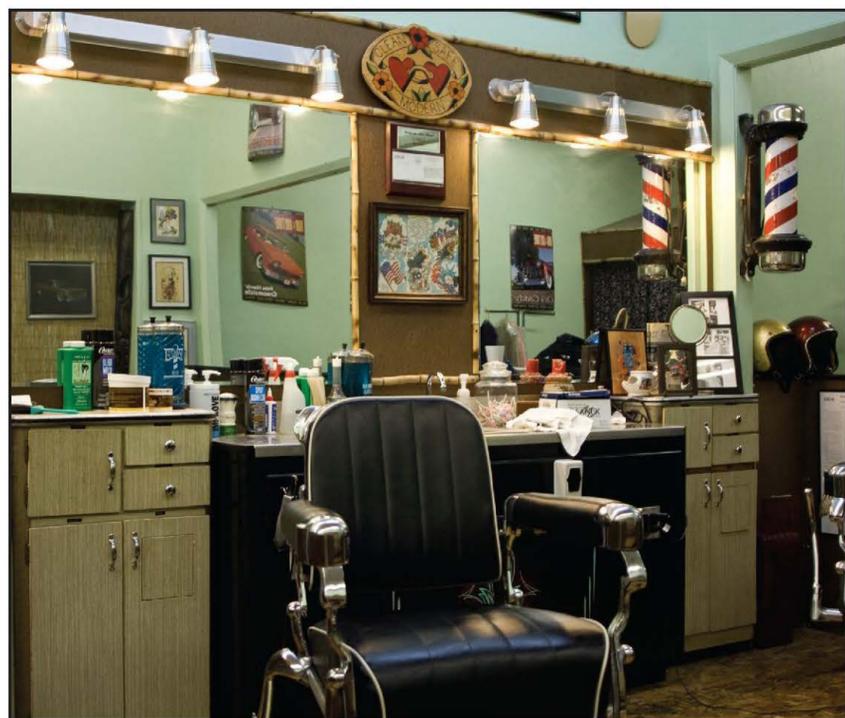
"Not only do I need them to have the GPA and the skills, I need someone who can be a leader right now," he said. "[Student athletes] are expected to be leaders. People see you and expect you to be the first to respond. Student athletes don't expect to be the first to respond."

"To teach students to be a leader is one of the first things I'd like to teach them," he said, noting the value of being a leader to moving onto a four-year athletics program.

At the end of the program, Bell talked about the program's value outside of its value to students, saying that it provided benefits to a team's competitive advantage and fundraising activities.

Tawntannisha Thompson, SGA president, said about the program, "[It's] what you would want someone to do."

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NATE PEREZ / THE RIP

True Grit, next to Atomic Kitten, offers traditional-style haircuts and hot towel shaves along with a '50s-style atmosphere.

A modern salon with a 1950s style

By Cassandra McGowan
Reporter

Atomic Kitten may sound like a scary type of cat, but it's really a cool cat in the world of full-service salons with its extensive services, a '50s vibe, and a staff of caring and charitable people.

"The retro '50s pin-up style," is how Ramona Potts, co-owner, described the aura of the salon.

Kerisa Summers, co-owner, said the inspiration for the salon was brought about when she attended car shows and wanted to give the women a place to bring to life the swagger and style of the '50s era.

So they set up shop right there at the car show with a booth that was always fully booked with women wanting to be beautified with a '50s touch.

"Kerisa had lots of friends into that and wanted their hair done in that style, but didn't have anyone to do it professionally," said Potts.

Atomic Kitten, located at 1316 19th street, offers everything from a normal haircut to extreme color, extensions, Feather Locks, massage, airbrush tanning, facials, nails, and make-up. They are currently seeking a pedicurist, so they can add that to their list of services.

"We have a fabulous esthetician and masseuse," said Potts. "Our manicurist is an artist."

They are the winners of the 2010 Battle of the Salons, where all the stylists participated in extreme hair and make-up battles complete with models and runway.

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Bakersfield's Buffalo Wild Wings get a truthful critique.

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BC's football team finishes disappointing season.

BC unit fees to stay at \$36 for spring semester

By Cassandra McGowan
Reporter

There is good news for Bakersfield College students planning to attend spring semester.

There will be no fee hike implemented.

Assembly Bill No. 32 has pushed that fee raise back until at least the summer, but BC president Greg Chamberlain said even then, "It's not absolutely for sure."

Had the hike been instituted,

fees per unit would have increased from \$36 to \$46.

Although the fees have not yet been increased, there is still a chance for inflation.

"I expect increases to be implemented starting summer 2012," said Chamberlain. "We will know for certain by January."

Fees for community colleges are set by legislature and will remain the same for all community colleges in California until further notice.

"I believe there is definitely potential for [fees] to continue to rise," said Chamberlain.

Some students were not aware of the fact there was supposed to be a fee increase in the spring semester.

"I had no idea they were going to do that, it's my first year here," said Ross Miller, BC student.

He said he's lucky enough to have the support of his family to help him financially, but that "it would suck" for other people. "I know for a lot of people it would

not be so good."

Other students have the advantage of the Board of Governor's Waiver that pays their class fees.

"Yeah, I think it sucks, but it doesn't really affect me because my tuition is paid," said Matt Rathbun, BC student.

When asked how he would feel if he didn't have the BOGW, when the fees do increase he said, "I wouldn't be taking as many units."

"I wouldn't be able to afford it, there's no way."

Comic-Con attracts artists and fans

By Amber T. Troupe
Production Editor

People were wearing masks and costumes of their favorite comics and characters at the scene of the Bakersfield Comic-Con Comic and Fantasy Convention during its fourth and biggest year so far. Big names like Jane Wiedlin, the guitarist from the hit '80s girl group The Go-Go's, as well as one of comics most well known illustrators, Bill Morrison, who helped create "The Simpsons" comic book, were present signing autographs and talking about comics.

Wiedlin was present at her very first comic con in Bakersfield, selling autographed pictures of herself in some of her movie and TV show roles as well as promoting her very own comic book series, titled "Lady Robotika," which she co-wrote with Morrison starting about four years ago.

Wiedlin had become a part of this comic con because she had met Steve Wyatt, who is the organizer of the Bakersfield Comic-Con. The two became good friends, so when he offered her the chance to attend, she took it.

"I'm pretty good friends with Steve and I had no problem coming here and I



NATHAN WILSON / THE RIP
Former Bakersfield College math instructor Mike Rios puts the final touches on his drawing of a superhero before coloring it at the Bakersfield Comic-Con on Nov. 6.

had heard that Bill was coming as well, so I was definitely on board. I would also be able to promote my comic book,"

Wiedlin stated.

Having been into writing since 1978, when the Go-Go's first entered the music scene, Wiedlin began writing short stories in the '90s and eventually created her very first comic.

"I preferred graphic novels first, but then when Bill came to me with an idea for a comic book about my life, I thought it would be interesting. It is based on me and I am abducted by aliens then I returned to earth and I become a cyborg and start saving the world," said Wiedlin.

She is also working on turning the book into a movie with Morrison's help and is also writing short stories for the Halloween issue of "The Simpsons" comic book titled "Treehouse of Horror XXII." She definitely has plans to attend more comic cons.

Some people like Scott Zillner, who is a fan of comic books and promoter of the Power Morphicon, a Power Rangers convention, were at-

tending for the fourth year in a row.

"I bring a little of both elements of comics and TV to the event, from rare and interesting stuff to new and popular. I'm able to communicate with the people here and I am a good friend of Steve Wyatt's," Zillner stated.

Zillner noticed that there were more kids present this time than in years before.

"The turnout was bigger this year in general, but there were a lot of kids present more than usual. I get a lot of the kids just asking questions about what they see on the table and mainly about Power Rangers action figures," Zillner explained.

There were even illustrators present that were drawing on the spot images as requested by convention goers for \$20 dollars per picture.

Tony Fleecs is a 10-year professional illustrator who has drawn characters like Harley Quinn and Sweet Hellfire from the Batman

Television series and created "In My Lifetime" and was a part of the panel of illustrators.

"I've been attending here for three years because I know the man who runs the convention, Steve. I brought my little brother to get a chance to see what I do here and why I attend. I support the raffle for the event," Fleecs said as he sketched an image for a customer.

Most of the people there were long time convention attendees, but there were a few people who didn't even know that there was a comic con in Bakersfield, like Maylanie Mendez, 29, who had heard about the event at a later time.

"This is my first time attending or hearing about the event. I heard from a client of mine that had posters printed out. So I got here last minute," Mendez said.

"I think it's pretty awesome. I prefer anime, but it's cool because we got to sit

in at a panel. I didn't know that Bakersfield even held a Comic Con. The illustrators were the most interesting spot for me."

The conventions promoter Steven Wyatt was excited about the large turnout this year.

"This year's event has 750 people in attendance which is largest this far and I think Jane Wiedlin as a celebrity guest helped. Each year it gets bigger. I'm glad because I don't do this for money.

"I actually don't make anything from it because the money collected from it, I donate it to the Bakersfield Food Bank. A couple days after it's over, when I have the time, I just go over to Von's and just donate \$1000 or more. I don't want anything from it," Wyatt explained.

Wyatt just hopes that the event keeps getting bigger and bigger, so that fans of cartoons and comics can enjoy, and the community can benefit.

They just weren't biting

By Patricia Rocha
Reporter

Fisherman and their families braved the rain and cold for the annual Trout Derby at Lake Evans in Buena Vista Aquatic Recreational Area.

For most fishermen, the \$1000 prize money for the heaviest trout is worth camping out in the wind and rain and waiting in line for the allowed time of 6:30 a.m. for the best spot.

Jesus Mendoza arrived at 2:30 a.m. to wait for the gates to open outside of the site.

"It's the sport of it. That's what I like. To try my luck," said Mendoza about the derby. "It's like a tradition."

Many fishermen agreed the money for the heaviest fish is only part of what brings so many people out to this event every year.

"It's more than the money. It's the bragging rights," said Randy Hudnall, who was last year's first place winner. "It's like winning the lottery. It's amazing."

Most of this year's participants have made the derby a tradition with their family or a certain group of friends, and enjoy the time spent with each other.

"It's hard to get the kids outside anymore," said Amy Hill, who brought her children to participate.

"You get to see people you



PATRICIA ROCHA / THE RIP
Andrew Van Sickle (left) and his father Jeff Van Sickle pose with the fish they caught at the annual Trout Derby at Lake Evans on Nov. 12.

haven't seen in a long time," said Ray Leal, who enjoyed bringing his family to create lasting memories and catching up with old friends.

"[The kids] remember it. It's something they tell their friends and teachers and everyone," Leal said.

"It's just the fun of it. It brings you back to your youth," said Roman Salcedo.

Despite the family friendly atmosphere, many people chose to skip the derby this time around. This year, participant numbers fell from last year's 800 to around 500, and some who came wished they had skipped this year too.

"This has been by far the worst year," said Danny Molina, who has had much better luck on this site in previous years.

"[The fish] all seem to be sleeping," said Jeff VanSickle about having only caught two fish in the six hours he'd been there.

Even the most skilled fisher-

man who participated admitted luck has a lot to do with fishing, especially in the weather they found themselves on that day.

"It's both luck and skill," said Tom Martin. "But there's always a chance for the money fish."

It's that luck, either good or bad, that leaves these fishermen with some of their best fishing stories.

"One year, we hooked a seven-pounder, which was the biggest of the day, but in the last hour someone beat us by a pound and a half," said Leal.

"We had a guy finally hook a big one, we hadn't caught anything all day, and people came over [from other sites] to help us bring it in, but he lost it at the last second," recalled Eric Federoff.

Though there were two thousand pounds of trout placed in the lake on Nov. 10, most fishermen blamed the poor weather for the lack of catches this year, and hope to come back after the derby to catch the remaining fish.

Planning for Thanksgiving meals

By Monica Bolger
Reporter

Most Americans will be enjoying Thanksgiving food on Nov. 24, and students at Bakersfield College are no different.

"The kind that's deep-fried," said BC student, Alexis Flores. "My family and I have always cooked our Thanksgiving turkey deep-fried. It tastes good that way."

For most, the annual holiday is the time of year that people "grub-down" and stuff themselves until their pants don't fit.

For BC job development specialist Rudy Gutierrez, that is the case every year, except for this year.

"Normally, my wife cooks the turkey, but this year me and two of my boys are going to get together and go quad riding at the dunes. This time, we'll be doing the cooking, most likely a traditional breakfast," said Gutierrez.

For others, the idea of cooking Thanksgiving dinner at home with family is the main aspect of what the holiday is about.

"Every year, my family from both sides get together for Thanksgiving, and the best part is when we all make an effort to cook one part of the meal, whether it's the turkey, or the ham, or the casserole, or anything else. Everyone pitches in and it makes a wonderful meal," said Bakersfield resident, Carmen Ortiz.

Ortiz's details of the food depict a visual of different colors, smells, and sounds.

"A lot of the things my family uses to cook are old ideas that my Abuela [Grandma] used to use, like using Rosemary and



Rainy Day French Toast

Ingredients

1/2 cup butter	12 slices of bread	2 cups milk
1 1/2 cup brown sugar	9 eggs	Chopped nuts (optional)
1 tsp. cinnamon	Pinch of salt	

Melt butter in a 9x13 pan. Add brown sugar and cinnamon to butter, and stir if desired, add nuts on top of brown sugar and butter mixture. Layer the bread on top of the mixture. Beat eggs and salt together, then add the milk and beat until mixed. Pour egg, milk and salt mixture over bread. Cover the pan and refrigerate overnight. The next morning uncover and bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes, or until cooked. Cut into squares, and serve upside down on plate so that brown sugar mixture is on top.

PHOTO AND RECIPE BY MEGAN LUECKE / THE RIP

lemon to marinade the vegetables, or using caramel or honey to make the desserts," said Ortiz. "It's like a madhouse this time of year. Everyone knows Thanksgiving is always at our house, and that the food will be great and that the party will be even greater."

Some cooks just do the normal stuff. "I cook the normal stuff and hangout with family," said BC job placement employee, Denise Crawford.

"What's always fun to do during Thanksgiving is to go to Magic Mountain or the movies, especially on a full stomach," said Crawford.

Thanksgiving defines itself, but the memories people have and the food people eat are what keeps the traditions occurring every year.

"I like to think of delicious pumpkin pie, or brown bottom butterscotch cashew crème pie, or my famous sweet potato pie," said Grandmother of four, Bernadette Moran.

"That's just about the only thing I can do is cook, and I normally never share my ideas, unless my close loved-ones are interested. I always spice up my things with secret little additions," said Moran.

"One of my secrets is a lot of love."

Tradition honors dead

By Jon Nelson
Reporter

Marcela Delatorre and her family sat off to the side as crowds of people wandered by to admire the altar that took them a year and a half to build.

"I wanted my son to learn about the tradition and to not be afraid of death," said Delatorre.

This sentiment was echoed over and over again by the participants of the Bakersfield's Museum of Art's Dia De Los Muertos celebration. Dia De Los Muertos is a holiday celebrated in many countries on Nov. 1-2 in connection with the Catholic holidays All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day. It is an occasion in which people take time to honor

and connect with their ancestors. The Bakersfield Museum of Art held its Dia De Los Muertos event Nov. 2.

The celebration featured children's activities, food, music and booths from local businesses. The focal point was the altars built by local residents.

"We've done it for the past three years," said Jorge Hernandez as he stood in front of an elaborate altar to Frida Kahlo. "We have the candles (on the altar) lighting the way for her ghost."

Hernandez is from the Liberty High School MEChA Club and said the group's altar took three weeks to put together.

The altars typically included flowers, candles, traditional

skulls made of sugar and food or drink that the deceased loved. One man had his brother bring in beer from Washington to add to the altar his family created in honor of his grandfather who was in a Spanish-language band from Bakersfield.

Some of the more unusual objects found on altars included a saddle and clothing worn by loved ones who had passed on.

"It's really nice [that] people get to celebrate their passed loved ones and show their culture," said Juan Delatorre.

This is the third year the Bakersfield Museum of Art has held its Dia De Los Muertos festival. Spaces to set up a display were free and available to anyone who signed up in advance.

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In the Lowe's Shopping Center

Art provides artful joy to patients at Mercy

By Amber T. Troupe
Production Editor

The program advisors at Mercy Hospital believe that art is a good form of healing, so they have provided survivors of diseases and illnesses with a workshop that can help them cope and better relax in a safe environment.

Program advisor Sister Sherry Dolan has been a part of the Art for Healing program since its inception two years ago in November.

"Our whole idea is that varied forms of art can lead to healing on some level. Different art forms enhance person's feelings of well-being. They may not have articulated, but they feel it," Dolan explained.

The program has a multitude of workshops that are offered on different days of the week. The Open Studio is where you choose your own activity that usually happens on Wednesdays. There is also Painting Free For All, Your Creative Muse and A Time to Write, just to name a few of them.

The center was formerly a church chapel and now is used by the program as the center of their healing arts.

"I think we are providing really wonderful service. We are even trying to coordinate with veterans at Bakersfield College to implement a mental health workshop or program," Dolan said.

On Nov. 12, the Art for Healing workshop had a potpourri ball workshop

where the tables were set up with different arts and crafts needed for the balls. The program advisor for the potpourri workshop, Judith Campanero, is from Hanford, Calif. and has been a facilitator for about one year now.

"I think its food for thought, a stress reliever. This is where you find a place to be safe and can be yourself," Campanero said.

The workshop also had oil paintings for sale. The profits would go to the Sisters of Mercy organization which correlates with the Art for Healing program. "Our dream is to have it open for everyone," said Campanero.

A lot of people that had attended these workshops told Campanero that the pro-

gram is really a healing place.

They feel better and they love the atmosphere, and the fact that creativity is not limited.

Rose Lester, a program volunteer, was invited to be a part of creative counsel almost two years ago and helped design the programs. She sets up the former chapel for presenting on Nov. 12 and all the other workshops.

The program also provides an Art Cart for patients at Mercy. The volunteers go room-to-room and bring the art supplies for the patients to use if they aren't mobile.

The center has goals to continue expanding and incorporating new workshops for the community.

Column

Don't lose humanity over the bargains

What are you wearing? | The Rip's Features Editor talks about what's hot and what's not.

All the hype about Black Friday seems dreadful.

Maybe it's because I'll be risking the chance of getting run over while I'll be working at my retail job.

I would like to ask everyone participating in Black Friday to please control the wild, money-saving beast inside of yourself and maintain the manners that have helped you function in society on a day-to-day basis.

So many people forget their manners and lose all sense.

I don't know if it's a clothing frenzy, or if it's society's one day to go crazy.

Everyone should keep in mind to act like it's any other day of regular shopping.

Normally, people don't crowd each other while waiting in line to buy a pair of shoes.

On Black Friday, crowding means you getting into a verbal and/or physical fight with a crazy lady devoted to receiving her \$5 gift card to the Gap.

People get riled up over saving small amounts of money.

\$5 at the Gap wouldn't buy you a chapstick or even a pair of socks for that matter.

No one needs to get hurt while they shop for gifts to give to their loved ones, in the celebration of Jesus' birth.

Which leads to my second request.

Please walk as you enter the stores.

Do not run like a child in a candy shop.

Call me crazy, but saving 10 percent on a pair of sweatpants is not worth someone getting trampled to death.

I can see people getting really excited if there's an 80 percent discount on all Gucci items in a Gucci retail store, otherwise there shouldn't be so much excitement.

People act like they have a chance to win a lifetime supply of clothes.

As much as I love clothes and deals combined together, I feel Black Friday isn't worth all the trouble.

Tremendous amounts of people are out all day long. Just driving to the location will be a hassle alone.

There are definitely some hot spots people should steer clear of.

You may be debating where to shop on Black Friday, but let me sway you to avoid Wal-Mart if it's on your list.

Some of you may have already noticed a certain class of people who primarily shop at Wal-Mart during a normal week.

It's not that I never shop at Wal-Mart because I do from time to time.

Imagine all of those people meeting at one place.

It's no surprise that Wal-Mart is the hot spot for violence on Black Friday.

It's kind of ridiculous that people get hurt over Wal-Mart products, especially over the horrible and hideous clothes they have.

People say that when you give someone a gift, it reflects how you feel about them.

If I received a gift of Wal-Mart clothes for Christmas, I would be deeply insulted.

No one has business buying Wal-Mart clothes as a Christmas gift.

At least go to Kohl's. They might have something decent and, besides, it's right next to Wal-Mart and will save your nose the agony of stepping inside of one.



Chrystal Fortt

Local record store keeps vinyl alive

By Nate Perez
Reporter

In this day and age when people are more likely to download music rather than buy it, Ronald Ramirez makes his living selling music, predominantly vinyl.

If you thought records were no longer relevant, think again.

Going Underground Records, located downtown at 1822 G St., has been in business for ten years.

In addition to being a record store, Going Underground also sells shirts, patches, turntables, comic books and owner, Ramirez releases records on his multiple record labels.

"The Going Underground label is on release 24, and that's punk rock records only," Ramirez said. "Epigraph is a new label I am doing with a guy named Kris Tiner and that's going to be all jazz. The first release will be in January."

A diverse selection of records is evident upon walking in. You can find punk, hip-hop, metal, jazz, folk, and so forth all on vinyl. "There's dudes that want boogie and funk records," he said. "There's dudes that come in weekly to buy jazz and there's dudes that come in every week to pick up the new punk records."

Along the walls of Going Underground there are limited edition records

for a much more expensive price than the regular shelf items and that is because they are most likely out of print or they are much harder to find.

New and used CDs can also be found in the store. "I sell the used stuff real cheap, \$5 or \$6. You have to be a good deal or else why bother?" said Ramirez.

Ramirez first opened Going Underground when he was 21.

Ramirez said, "The first spot that I had, I bought out Andy Noise which was a music store here on 17th Street, but realistically that place sucked. It was hidden and it wasn't cool." About six years ago Ramirez moved his store to G Street for more space and a better location.

Record collecting has been a hobby of Ramirez since he was a child. He had a stash of Prince and Kiss records that he would listen to on his kid record player, but it wasn't until 12 or 13 that he began getting serious about his collection.

"Buying punk records was hard around here because the store was stupid." That store was Andy Noise, which Ramirez bought out. Ramirez continued, "He didn't realize punk rock was still on vinyl. It was just CDs, CDs and CDs. You'd have to go out of town and mail order stuff. So I learned quick. Go out of town and mail order because there is nothing around Bakersfield."

If you have records you no longer want,



ELEONOR SEGURA / THE RIP

Ronald Ramirez is the owner of Going Underground Records at 1822 G St. in downtown Bakersfield.

Going Underground buys and trades records as long as they're in listening condition. "I want almost anything," he said.

Ramirez also books bands to play around Bakersfield. Bands like Japanther have played inside the record store, but he

also books bands at Munoz Gym, a boxing gym during the day and occasionally a punk rock venue at night. Some bands that Ramirez booked were The Locust, Gravy Train, No Bunny and Mammoth Grinder.



ELEONOR SEGURA / THE RIP

Various music genres can be found on vinyl records at Going Underground.



ELEONOR SEGURA / THE RIP

Customers can buy t-shirts, CDs and vinyl records at Going Underground. The store also pays cash for books, comics, and toys.

Black Friday simply doesn't excite students

By Monica Bolger
Reporter

The people who will benefit the most from Black Friday this year will be the ones who stay home and save their money.

At least that's what BC freshman Brian Hayes, thinks when asked about the day-after Thanksgiving's "commercial holiday."

"Uh, no thank you. I'll be at home sleeping when everyone else is out beating each other up to buy things that are only a couple bucks off," said Hayes. "That's a no brainer in my opinion."

While some individuals like Hayes

may not be very amused by the advertisements flooding the television and computer screens about "big deals" and "huge savings" offered, others will jump at the opportunity of "snagging" low-price deals on different items.

BC job development specialist Antonio Alfaro is one person that will not be wasting any time this year.

"Of course, I'll be shopping, but instead of going early like everyone else, I'll buy it online first and then pick it up in the store by noon," said Alfaro.

As Alfaro arranges his shopping tactics, another BC employee Latasha Harris isn't as enthusiastic.

"That stuff is crazy. Heck no. I'll be

waiting 'til after the rush," said Harris. "You need money to do that."

And yet many others will agree with not "following the crowd" on Nov. 25, not only because of financial reasons, but also for safety precautions.

"Overrated is what I think," said BC mailroom coordinator, Craig Harmon. "I think there's not as many good deals as they say there will be. Like Wal-mart will advertise the TV's they have for sale, but when you get there, there's nothing left. 'Well, where's the TV?'" said Harmon.

Wal-mart, along with other stores, have been said to have had safety dilemmas during the opening for lack Friday.

"It gets pretty crazy. Several people

have gotten killed at those things," said Harmon.

According to a CNN online source, there have been several cases of "Black Friday shopping disasters" that have depicted gun-shootings at toy stores, Wal-mart stampeding, and Best-Buy brawls that have involved fistfighting.

"It's these cases that people don't think about when they're in the heat of the moment and are too excited about getting to the electronics they want or the perfume they want to wear," said Harris.

Nov. 25 is not only known to be the day after Thanksgiving, but it's known for being one of the "biggest shopping holidays of the year."



NATE PEREZ / THE RIP

Ramona Potts, co-owner of Atomic Kitten, blow dries the hair of one of her clients in the shop at 1316 19th St.

RETRO: Cool '50s styles

Continued from Page 1

"Everybody was involved. It really brought everyone together," said Potts.

There's a huge maroon check that sits on top of the cabinets at the back of the salon beaming the pride the salon has in winning that competition.

"That definitely was a teamwork thing right there," said Summers.

"It's a salon where every walk of life feels comfortable," said Summers. "That's what we wanted, a chill salon."

Atomic Kitten used to be located on F Street and had a boutique shop that carried consignments as well as new clothes that matched the era the salon was inspired by. When the boutique part of the salon moved to 19th Street, changed its name to True Grit, and opened as a stand-alone store, the owners of Atomic Kitten moved right next door.

Lumpy, owner of True Grit, said the shop has been open for a little over two years and is also "a '50s-inspired shop." He offers the old-school hot towel shave, many of the traditional haircuts like the flattop and fade, and has recently added a tattoo shop in

the back of his store.

Aside from haircuts, shaves, and make-up, these two businesses are highly community-oriented and charity-driven.

Both places team up with the District Attorney's office of Child Support Services and offer free back-to-school haircuts to children who otherwise wouldn't be able to start their school year with a fresh new trim.

Atomic Kitten held a fundraiser to help a friend diagnosed with cancer around the time of 9/11 and Summer said they hope to do another one next year.

True Grit and Atomic Kitten also get together and host a Thanksgiving Day buffet and clothing drive to feed and clothe the homeless and less-fortunate of Bakersfield. Atomic Kitten has been hosting this event for the last five years and will continue to do so with the support of the businesses that donate food and the community who donate clothes.

"It's all about giving back. It's just my time," said Lumpy.

To make a clothing donation or offer your help, please contact either Atomic Kitten at 323-7653 or True Grit at 323-8783.

BC club shows pride in heritage



BRANDON BARRAZA / THE RIP

Carlotta Coronado, garbed in a spirit dress made to ward off sickness, dances in the free speech area at Bakersfield College on Nov. 14. Coronado is a member of the Native American Awareness Club.

News Briefs

Civil War discussion

The Norman Levan Center is presenting a panel discussion on "Was the Civil War Inevitable?" on Nov. 16 at 7 p.m. at the Norman Levan Center. Admission and parking are free. For information, call 395-4339.

CAS workshops

Free CAS workshops are being held in SS151. On Weds, Nov. 16, the workshop "Test Taking Tips" will be 5-6 p.m. On Thurs., Nov. 17, the workshop "Be a Successful Student" will be held at 1-2 p.m.

Smoking Forum

Brough presents "The Open Mic Forum" on tobacco issues on campus on Nov. 17 from 1-4 p.m. at the Campus Center stage. The event will feature a speaker and will be a chance for students to express their opinions on tobacco use and smoking. Popcorn will be served as well as cotton candy. For more information, contact Derrick Kenner at 395-4354 or check the SGA website or campus center to sign up.

Smoking policy poll

The SGA Web site will be holding an online poll about whether Bakersfield College should ban the use of all tobacco products on campus or should instead stick to existing non-smoking laws that prohibit smoking in any public building or 20' from any public building. Check bakersfieldcollegesga.weebly.com for the upcoming poll.

Battle of the Bands

Round 2 of the Battle of the Bands will be at Jerry's Pizza on Sat, Nov. 19; from 6-10 p.m. Admission is \$5.

SGA: Teaching students to take charge and intervene

Continued from Page 1

Thompson was honored at the event when she was given a Ben's Bells Bracelet, a bracelet made by the Ben's Bells Project. The Project promotes intervention and kindness in neighborhoods by placing bells around the community as a form of community art and has partnered with the Step Up! program.

One of the more memorable moments during the presenta-

tion, according to Thompson, was a video that showed a young child whose father staged a series of kidnappings to see if bystanders would intervene. After hours and dozens of people ignoring the fake kidnappings, finally a pair of young men challenged the man.

"What amazed me is the number of people who didn't act," said Thompson when she pointed to the clip as a reason to teach students to intervene.

1970s rock lives on today

By Patricia Rocha
Reporter

International student Ivan Mendez has set out to create a new type of show with the concept of a mock concert series.

Mendez and his band-mates, Blaine Robey and Mauro Lepore, are attempting to create a show that bridges the gap between local show and a large-scale tour with their band that covers the 1970s band America.

"We're just doing it for fun," says Mendez. "[The band mates] and I are really excited. It's really cool because none of us had ever heard of America before," he said. "A couple months ago, we didn't even know who they were - didn't even know they were a band. Now, we love America."

The show is supposed to recreate the feel of a real America concert by any means possible.

"We're going to get the guy

that does lighting for Rabobank, and he's going to help us put up the stage lights. We're going to have the RV in the back kind of like a tour bus," Mendez said. "We're trying to make the vibe of the band exactly like a concert, and afterward we're going to sell demos, sign autographs and take pictures."

The members aren't originally from the United States, with Mendez being from Mexico and Lepore residing from Argentina. English is their second language.

Mendez's host father and owner of the restaurant Coconut Joe's, Joe Coughlin, influenced the boys to listen to classic rock and acts as the band's manager.

"That's part of why this is so great. The music's great, but also the story behind the music," Coughlin said. "You have to know what's going on here. They're not only from an-

other country playing America. They're from a different generation playing America."

Coughlin is allowing the band to showcase their talents at their show in Coconut Joe's Banquet Hall on Nov. 20 and is excited to give them a safe venue and an audience that'll appreciate the music.

"That's part of the fun of it," he said. "We're going to do it like a real concert, complete with posters and lighting and we're going to give the people who come the real deal."

The band will play songs by America, but will also play some of their favorites like "Gravity" by John Mayer and "Comfortably Numb" by Pink Floyd and hope that they will be able to play more classic songs for future shows.

Those interested in attending must RSVP at 661-431-6528 to be put on the door list for entry.



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