

The Renegade Rip

BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE

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GREGORY D. COOK / THE RIP

Bakersfield College quarterback Brian Burrell breaks into the secondary on a keeper.

BC wins season opener

By Zak S. Cowan
Editor in Chief

The Bakersfield College Renegades defeated L.A. Pierce 32-19 with the help of strong defensive play and an explosive offense to kick off the season with a victory.

BC's rush defense allowed just 57 yards and caused three fumbles in the team's first game of the season.

Head coach Jeff Chudy said that he was pleased with what he saw out of his defense but that there are still major improvements that the squad needs to make to take their game to the next level.

"I thought we did some good things at times," said Chudy. "The turnovers that we created were huge and definitely played a big part in the outcome of the game."

Freshman quarterback Brian Burrell completed 16-of-30 passes for 234 yards and two touchdowns in his collegiate debut for BC.

The passing game was inconsistent, especially toward the beginning of the game, but they made enough plays to come out on top.

"Our chemistry's good, but I missed some open guys," Burrell said. "So we definitely need to come back to work on some things and try to get a little better in every aspect of the game."

"There's a lot of things I've got to improve on, but it's good to get a victory on the first game."

Please see **RENEGADES**, Page 11



GREGORY D. COOK / THE RIP

Late in the second quarter, Bakersfield College running back Jalen Sykes makes his way into the end zone past Pierce College defenders Sept. 3. Although the touchdown was called back due to a penalty, the Renegades scored on the following play.

Updated budget could bring higher fees

By Keith Kaczmarek
Reporter

New fee hikes for next semester are in the budget that is currently under consideration, according to the listed budget on the California Community Colleges Web site.

If California state shortfalls reach projected levels, California community college students may be facing fees of \$46 a unit next semester if certain "triggers" occur.

Additionally, there is authorization to make cuts at the mid-year point that retroactively apply to the fall semester, potentially putting some California community colleges in a difficult position of needing to make drastic cuts to meet their budget.

Bakersfield College's own budget seems to have been already cut to handle any potential shortfall. An email last summer from Sandra Serrano, Kern Community College District chancellor, states, "No matter what state economic scenario occurs, KCCD's tentative budget already anticipates the state's projected revenue shortfall. As a result, KCCD will not have to make mid-year cuts."

She added later in the same email "While the KCCD budget will not change if the state revenues come up short, students may pay more for classes."

Some California community colleges have had such difficulty that they have not had summer classes at all, but BC has been spared this option. Greg Chamberlain, president of BC, said "We've had a significantly reduced offering, but our board feels that we should have a summer presence."

"We'd like to believe that we've done a good job keeping people," he said. "We have cut people (adjuncts)."

Adjuncts are professors that only teach part-time, and they are often hired by colleges because of the cost-savings they provide. This is because the positions don't offer benefits.

"No one likes that we had to reduce classes," Chamberlain said. "We are going to do our best within our budget restrictions."

While there are rumors of cuts to many programs on campus, such as a 60% reduction in the budget for the Tutoring Center, there have also been confirmed extra expenditures. For example, Sgt. Chris Counts has confirmed that there will be two new temporary officers. "The school is very supportive of safety and security, and it has not affected us," he said.

LaMont Schiers, director of administrative services at BC, has noted that while cuts be-
Please see **BUDGET**, Page 4

New online portal condenses system

By Amber T. Troupe
Production Editor

Inside BC is an online portal designed by the Informational Services Department at Bakersfield College to allow students an easier way to access personal accounts such as Banweb, Moodle and college e-mail.

"The portal somewhat works like a Super Wal-Mart in the sense that it offers students these technological resources in one place with one login," explained Todd Coston, interim director of Information Services.

Coston's colleague, David R. Barnett, Internet Services administrator,

said, "When the students sign in, it has that 'my courses' tab that lists all the courses you're taking.

"We automatically create this site for each course registration number an instructor teaches and so if a faculty adopts this, students will be able to navigate more than one instructor's pages as well."

Both Coston and Barnett agreed that the biggest negative would only be the change. Students who have been around longer would have to adapt to the new way of logging in, but that's really the only drawback in their opinion.

This has been in the making for three or four years, and testing officially began during 2011 summer classes.

Now the portal is just working out any bugs that may be remaining. Students also have the ability to help administration with these bugs.

Students are able to give feedback on how the portal is working for them, which has been and will continue to enable all involved parties to improve on it.

Sandra Serrano, Chancellor of Kern Community College District, had expressed her vision among presidents and managers of each campus, which then led to them contacting Information Technology and wanting ideas and products supplied that would enable her vision to manifest.

"All services and hardware are based

from the District Offices, who hosts all our sites," Coston stated.

"The portal is not just limited to the Bakersfield Campus. Cerro Coso and Delano campuses have access as well."

Barnett and Coston hope the new system will have a snowball effect to where students will gradually become used to the new login.

It believes that this is the new wave of registration among community colleges and universities in the area, with BC being somewhere in the middle among advancement of technology in this area.

Eventually, this type of login will be how colleges and universities will interact with their students.

Inside



Page 3: Located on 19th and Eye Street, Bakersfield's First Friday is a popular and growing event that promotes the arts community, independent artists, and local businesses in the area.

Page 5:
The Student Government Association kicks off their new year with big plans.

Page 10:
New athletic director discusses his new leadership role at BC.

Thermal Energy System has yet to be utilized by BC

By America Garza
Reporter

Nearly a year and a half after its completion, the Thermal Energy System located between the Levinson Building and the Grace Van Dyke Bird Library remains unused.

"We have some engineering items that we're trying to address and take care of, and it's taking a lot longer than we would like," said LaMont Schiers, executive director of Administrative Services for Bakersfield College.

The million-gallon tank, completed in Spring 2010, acts as a cold water reservoir for use in the campus' air conditioning system.

Water is chilled at night and pulled from the tank during daytime peak usage hours.

It is expected to save the college on energy costs by reducing gas and electricity consumption and avoiding costly surcharges from the power company.

The project has faced setbacks in the final stages of integration with the cooling system's water circulation line, commonly referred to as the chiller loop.

"The opportunity is just the interface between the tank and the loop. Once those are resolved it will be brought online," said Schiers.

He stated that the contractor is being held responsible for func-
Please see **THERMAL**, Page 4



NATHAN WILSON / THE RIP

This 1 million-gallon water tank is intended to cool water overnight for use in campus air conditioning systems.

Heavy metal receives a mariachi twist

By Tyler McGinty
Opinions Editor

Five brothers, with the same mother and different fathers, have formed a cover band dedicated to playing metal songs in a mariachi style.

It seems outlandish, but that's the story Vega de la Rockha gives on the origins of Metalachi.

"We've been playing together since birth," says Rockha.

Metalachi is very passionate about metal, claiming to have learned how to speak English from metal.

"Metal and mariachi are the best music on the planet, and you put them together and you get Metalachi," says violinist Maximilian "Dirty" Sanchez.

Their (possibly real) stage personas give Metalachi a unique flair that contributes to their music and bleeds into their performance.

The story of a group of illegitimate children, all brothers fathered by different drunken mariachi musicians, following in their fathers' footsteps seems like the makings of a legend.

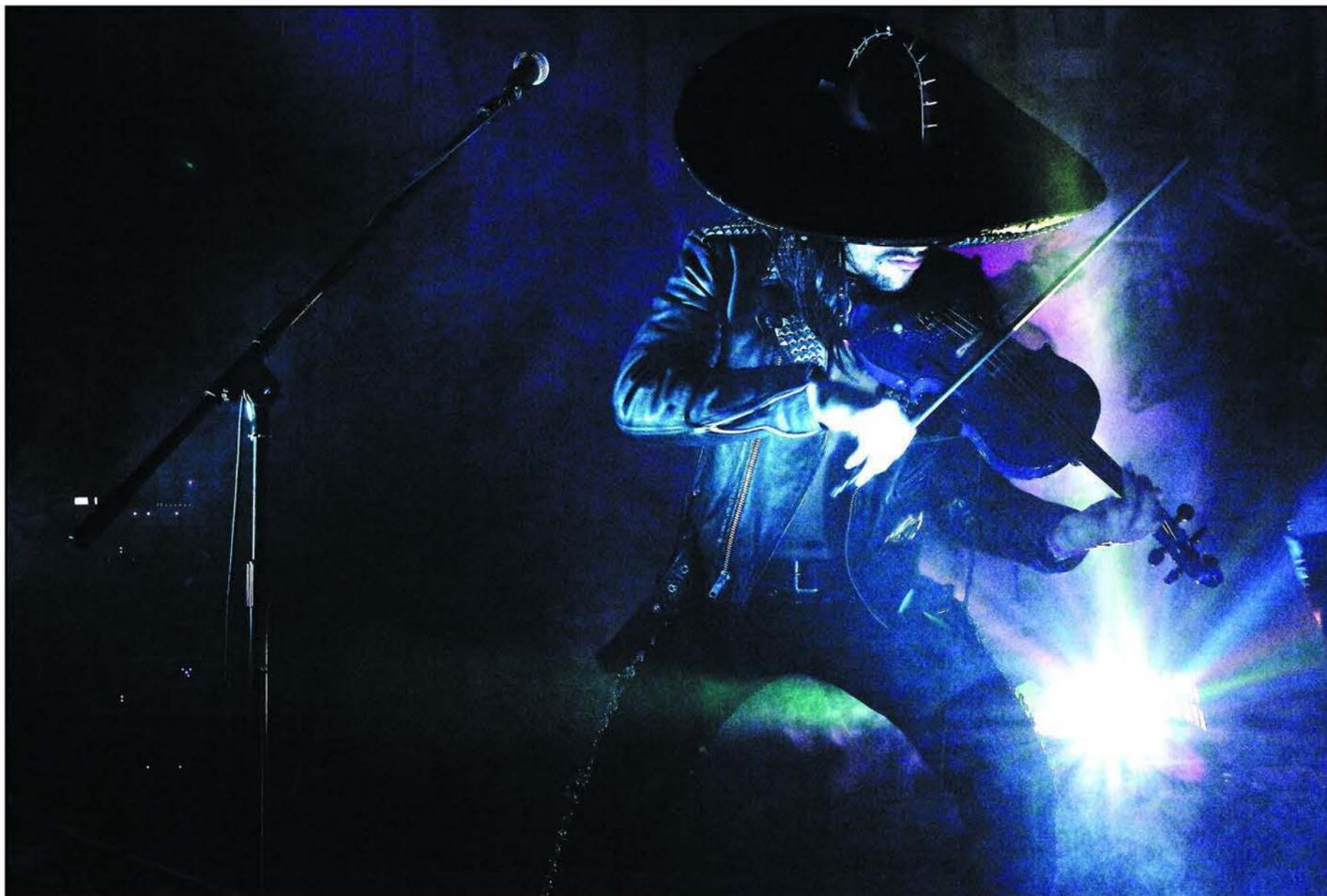
Or at the very least, a story you might hear in a bar somewhere.

Metalachi kicked off their live performance at Fishlips on Sept. 1 with a cover of AC/DC's "Back in Black," and Rockha channeled Brian Johnson in a way that doesn't seem possible if you've heard him speak. But all it took was the opening riff being played on El Cucuy's trumpet for the crowd to get hooked.

Metalachi seemed to be a little constricted by the smaller stage at Fishlips, so there weren't a lot of onstage antics, but they did banter with the audience.

They even brought a woman onstage when they introduced the band and made the "perfect" margarita for her. Each member of the band had one ingredient that they poured into her cup, one by one, as they were introduced.

This concoction was topped off by El Cucuy, who squeezed a lime on the codpiece of his ornate KISS-styled armor (which he claims to have been born in).



PHOTOS BY ELEONOR SEGURA / THE RIP

Metalachi violinist, Maximilian "Dirty" Sanchez, performs onstage at Fishlips on Sept. 1. The band puts a mariachi twist on metal songs.

But it isn't just flair, outlandish stories and crazy armor that make Metalachi what it is. These may get them noticed, but if the band didn't have talent then they wouldn't have any staying power.

With El Cucuy and Sanchez taking the center stage most frequently, playing the riffs people would know, a lot is riding on these two.

Fortunately, these two can carry the band. Especially during "Sweet Child of Mine" when Sanchez plays pizzicato. Then it was easy to see why Sanchez claims that people call him the

"Mexican Slash."

The arrangement of their covers was innovative, and Rockha says they work hard on it.

"We figure out how not to just cover a metal song, but to do a combination of mariachi with the metal," says Rockha. "The instrumentation helps a lot, but we try to incorporate a lot of mariachi rhythms."

Metalachi doesn't have an album out yet, but they're working on raising money to start production. They're relying heavily on fans, and using a Kickstarter account, but they hope to put out an album soon.



Above: Metalachi band members (from left) Vega De La Rockha, Poncho Rockafeller, El Cucuy, Maximilian "Dirty" Sanchez, Ramon Holiday pose for a photo in their stage costumes before their performance at Fishlips.

Left: Metalachi kicks off their live performance with a cover of AC/DC's "Back in Black" with an opening riff played on El Cucuy's trumpet. The band is dressed in mariachi and metal gear.



Local author sells over 100,000 copies of self-published novel

By Amber T. Troupe
Production Editor

Originally from Lamont, Adam Rendon graduated from Arvin High School in 2009 and soon after graduating, published his first book.

In its first two months, "The Vallie" sold just over 100,000 copies on Amazon.com. With a self-publishing company, a majority of things are taken care of by that company and publicity is something that isn't offered. So Rendon had to go out and get his own publicist and had to learn a hard lesson when the publicist took advantage of him. That's something he charged to be being eager and naive as a new author.

As for content, Rendon said, "Generally I talked about everything that was going on in society at the time, looking from the outside perspective that high school is a lot harder than what people think. People like to read gossip, whether it's celebrity or local. I decided, you know what, I'm going to let them read the truth."

Rendon began writing his book because he was going through a lot of things and didn't really want to talk about any of it, so he began keeping a personal journal.

One of his friends got the journal, read it and really liked it. Once he got the feedback from his friend, Rendon decided to continue on with the book.

Rendon stated, "In the book I talked about the other person's perspective, how they perceived me and I decided I want to let them hear my side of the story because they never got the opportunity. It let me clear out a lot of my skeletons in the closet."

Being self-published, Rendon talked how he had to do a lot of research about it and once he was sure that was the way he wanted to go, he invested a total of about \$1,100. He came up with a majority of it on his own and then he later started fundraising.

Rendon's book officially published and released on June 11. Prices start at \$9 through the publishing company, \$10 through E-books and \$11 on Amazon.

com. With the self-publishing deal, Rendon gets to decide on the percentage from the royalties, which was a better deal to him than what a big publishing company offered him.

"It was an offer that I could live the rest of my life off of and when they offer so much money for something they want then there's value in that item," Rendon expressed. "I don't want to consider myself a sellout because there were things they wanted to change that I didn't because I felt it made the book more valuable."

Now able to really enjoy the spoils of his labor, he was invited to the University of Southern California's Festival of Books sponsored by the Los Angeles Times. He was able to speak along with noted authors like J.K. Rowling, author of the Harry Potter books, and R.L. Stine, author of the Goosebumps series. Rendon was also invited to the 2011 Music Television Movie Awards.

Rendon recalls his friends and families reactions once the book was published.

Rendon explained, "Once I actually got copies of it, I signed them and gave them out and within six to eight hours I got calls from friends and family crying and saying that they didn't know a lot of this was going on, such as the sexual abuse and being openly gay. A lot of people wanted me not to put the book out, and I lost a lot of friends because of it."

However, Rendon has yet to let any of this stop him on his road to success. He bought his own company, which he wants to use for allowing others to join the company.

Rendon is currently still employed at a local pawnshop, where he has been an employee for the last year and a half.

He has goals to move because he feels he can't stay in Bakersfield because it's too conservative.

He has more books in mind and wants to be a motivational speaker at high schools, letting teens know they're not the only ones going through things in high school.

Bluesfest to return to CSUB this fall

By Jon Nelson
Reporter

Blues fans and the Houchin Blood Bank will both benefit Sept. 17 when the Cal State Bakersfield Amphitheater once again hosts the B-Town Blues Fest.

"It promotes people reaching across artificial boundaries that don't need to be in place," said Pat Evans, founder of the festival and owner of Bakersfield Institution World Records.

This year's lineup features Joe Louis Walker, John Nemeth, Gina Sicilia, and the Flying Arvizu Brothers.

Nemeth and Sicilia were chosen specifically because they are young artists.

"Blues music is really for everyone. They can all have a good time. It's fun to see parents bring their kids," said Evans.

"It's a beautiful melting pot."

Evans started the B-Town Blues Fest in 2005. He began doing a series of concerts in the late '90s, and they were so

successful and he had so much fun doing them that he decided to transform the shows into a yearly festival.

"Blues artists are the most dedicated musicians I've ever seen," said Evans.

An important part of Blues Fest is the association with Houchin Blood Bank.

All food and drink proceeds go to the blood bank's Bone Marrow Program and a 40 percent discount on tickets are given to blood donors.

"There's always a need for blood donors. It's something that people need to be aware of," said Evans.

Evans explained that the festival isn't just for seasoned Blues fans.

"We have a great, diverse lineup," said Evans.

The event also features what Evans described as "great, cheap food" from local restaurants, Coconut Joe's, Frugati's, and Jake's Tex-Mex.

Tickets for the B-Town Blues Fest are available at locations across Bakersfield, including World Records, which has moved to 2815 F Street.

Column

Designers make it affordable to be stylish

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

In the fashion world, I've noticed a trend of top-notch designers designing for lower-end stores.

One of the world's greatest fashion legends, Karl Lagerfeld, has designed a 41-piece line called Impulse for Macy's department store that was released Aug. 31. The fall line features tweed jackets, faux leather pants and sleeveless turtle-necks, sheer long-sleeve collared blouse, fall style floral prints on dresses and tops.



Chrystal Fortt

None of the line costs more than \$170.

Kim, Khloe and Kourtney Kardashian, the ever-so-popular socialites, have also launched a 41-piece line that came out Aug. 11.

The collection is called Kardashian Kollektion and is designed for the Sears department store.

The line features jumpers, tuxedo dresses, wide-leg trousers, cut-out dresses, leopard prints, and sequenced blazers

None of their line costs more than \$70.

A historic and successful fashion house that's been around since the 1920's, Missoni has designed 400 items for Target and will launch Sept. 13.

Missoni not only designed clothes, but also kitchenware and home items.

The entire collection features their iconic retro zigzags on shorts, boots, coats, shirts, headbands, you name it, they've got it.

If you don't have the money to drop on a Chanel blazer that Freja Beha was wearing in the Spring 2011 campaign, then buying Lagerfeld's designs from Macy's is pretty awesome.

But why would Lagerfeld, the creative director of Chanel design for Macy's?

Why would the Kardashians, who own D-A-S-H boutique, design for Sears?

Why would fashion house Missoni design for Target?

Some people think the designers might've got bored designing in their own house and wanted a challenge to design something.

Maybe they needed to amp up in sales and needed extra marketing; whatever the reason, there's a catch.

The catch is, people might think they're getting a great deal of top-quality clothing for cheap.

Don't be fooled, expensive clothes are not expensive just because of good design and just because it has the "brand name" but mostly because of the quality of the material.

Chanel is a high-end brand and is expensive because it has all around qualities in the design and materials.

Missoni's fashion house has the same high quality of expensive material and well-thought-out designs from the best of the best in the fashion world.

Don't let their super clever marketing trick you into thinking you're buying "real" Missoni quality clothes at Target.

Just because it says Missoni on the advertisements doesn't mean you're getting all of Missoni.

I'm guessing Missoni isn't going to be the last designer to design for a low-end store.

I'm sensing that this is a trend that might become increasingly popular with fashion designers if the economy doesn't rebound soon.

I'm not saying that this trend is bad. I'm just saying you should be surprised when your favorite Kardashian jumper starts to fall apart.

First Friday animates downtown

By Chrystal Fortt
Features Editor

Every first Friday of the month, on 19th and Eye Street, art, people, food and music take over downtown. Don Martin is the owner of Metro Galleries and is the creator of Bakersfield's event First Friday.

"Basically, it's an art related event, all the galleries are open and do their new exhibit opening every First Friday," said Martin. "And then the shops and boutiques also are open late and do special events, sales, music, refreshments and things like that."

Each business has something different to show every First Friday.

"We all show different types of work, and that's the great thing. You're not going to see the same thing. Every gallery is different. Some focus on photography, some focus purely on local artists," said Martin.

There is also the Art Walk where artists set up stands along the streets to show and sell their

work.

Loren John Presley is an artist and author who is a part of the Art Walk.

"It's a lot of fun, you meet a lot of people and see a lot of cool stuff," said Presley. "You're surrounded by creativity, and you're a part of it all. You participate, and people can see your stuff and show admiration."

"I would've figured that just because it's an arts type of thing that we wouldn't get that many people, but we really do have a great arts community," said Martin.

First Friday has surpassed the success that Martin had expected when it was first started.

"I probably got about 35 people [when it first started], I was happy with 35 people on our Friday night, and the next month it was 40 and it took about a year and then we were getting a couple hundred," said Martin.

Bakersfield's art event has grown tremendously in the last three years with about 3,000 to 4,000 people that come to every First Friday.

With that many people in the streets, people will often assume that First Friday is a street fair.

Martin emphasizes that First Friday is not a street fair; it's an art event that promotes the downtown arts district and also the local businesses in the area.

"It's really to encourage people to get into the businesses," said Martin. "If I have somebody out there selling hot dogs or sandwiches or whatever, they're competing with all the restaurants we have downtown."

To make First Friday more about the locals, they need more local people to come to the event. Martin has been trying to bring people from other sides of town to really help revitalize downtown.

"It's just trying to blend all of [the local businesses] together and let people know that we really do have a revitalizing downtown," said Martin.

Martin welcomes any age and anyone who wants to get out of the house and enjoy entertain-



ELEONOR SEGURA / THE RIP

Art vendors display their work at First Friday on Sept 2.

ment.

"I know a couple and they have two little boys, they walk around on First Friday, they get them an ice cream, they come in, show them the art, the little shops, maybe buy some things,

maybe have dinner, maybe not," said Martin. "They take the kids home and then come back out and have dinner as a couple and go to Fishlips and hear a band, or go to the Padre and see some music."

A fresh alternative to the cappuccino bar

By Cassandra McGowan
Reporter

If you like tea, Tea Bar may be your hidden gem. Tucked away behind Baskin-Robbins 31 Flavors and next to Body Exchange Sports Club on White Lane, Tea Bar is a new alternative to the ever-popular coffee house.

Andy Nguyen opened Tea Bar four months ago and says he serves anywhere from 70 to 100 drinks per day to thirsty customers.

All drinks are made to order in a fashion that Nguyen describes as "like bartender." There's even an actual bar where you can see your pick of tea, displayed in clear jars, while sitting and watching your drink of choice being made.

Or, if you're in a hurry, there's a drive-thru to get you in and out quickly.

There is a pretty extensive menu of drinks that include, but are not limited to: tea, coffee, smoothies, flavored shots and Italian sodas.

At this time the only snacks offered are small bags of chips, but Nguyen says he is working on a menu for hungry patrons hoping to eat as well as enjoy one of the many tea varieties or other drinks offered at Tea Bar.

Nguyen says tea is a healthy alternative to energy drinks and coffee.

One goal of his business is to educate people on the health benefits of tea. Nguyen says white tea is especially appealing to women.

According to Nguyen, white tea can reduce the appearance of wrinkles and fine lines as well as help to keep teeth and hair healthy.

There is a health chart hanging on the wall, as well as on Tea Bar's website (www.TeaBarca.com), where you can read about the health benefits of the different tea categories. Nguyen's slogan for Tea Bar reads: "Flavor + Health = Tea-Mates."

A weekend special Tea Bar offers is coconut Jell-O, served in the coconut shell complete with decoration, and made fresh by Nguyen's wife.

The building looks very small from the outside, but once inside there is room for about 25 people to sit comfortably, Tea Bar offers free Wi-Fi for people to use while hanging out or studying.

There is also a stack of games available to customers who want to pass the time while savoring their beverage of choice.

Nguyen said, Tea Bar used to have free live music on the weekend and is currently looking for a new musician to fill the space left empty.

Tea Bar is located at 7697 White Lane and is open seven days a week, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sundays.



JOSEPH COTA / THE RIP

Above: Ivy Nguyen, co-owner of the Tea Bar, prepares the ingredients for one of the bar's many flavors of tea.

Below: The Tea Bar, located at 7697 White Lane, offers a wide variety of teas for patrons to choose from.



Culture is back in town

By Nate Perez
Reporter

Sept. 9, marks the 28th season of FLICS, which is a volunteer organization that shows international films at the Fox Theater every other Friday, and occasionally Saturdays, at 7:30 p.m. from September to May.

Everyone from the board of directors, to the website designer, the distribution of fliers, and the people working at the event are all volunteers.

A lot of the films FLICS show are foreign films that require reading subtitles, but there will also be a few films in English this season.

The English films will also include subtitles for the hearing impaired. All the films are story driven that include a wide variety of genres.

Phil Neufeld, president of FLICS, said, "FLICS is not everyone's cup of tea, but you're

in for something different if you attend."

Anybody can attend FLICS, including children and teenagers.

However, according to the FLICS website, the films shown are best enjoyed by mature individuals who are not easily offended.

According to Neufeld, opening night for the last season of FLICS housed 1,100 people.

An average of 400 people showed for the movies overall, and the average age of an attendee was 40.

Opening night begins at 6:30 p.m. and includes punch, wine, and snacks.

The film marking the beginning of the season is called "La Prima Cosa Bella," an Italian comedy.

Admission is \$5 and season passes are available for \$50. For more information visit <http://www.flics.org>.

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Plans finally carried out to renovate SAM building

By Esteban Ramirez
Reporter

For a few years now, Bakersfield College has had plans to start renovations on the Speech, Arts and Music building.

According to LaMont Schiers, director of administrative services, they will finally start the renovations as early as December.

All classes that are in the SAM building are currently being held in the Fine Arts and Student Services buildings.

Some are even being held in the gym so the students can continue taking those classes, but they were just temporarily moved elsewhere until the remodeling is done. The equip-

ment that is needed right away for the classes has been moved to the new rooms, but some equipment is currently being stored.

"Any major renovation to a building on campus has to go through a state evaluation process because they give us the funds, and that's why it takes a few years," said Schiers.

"The state has approved the renovations to the SAM building and all the architect drawings have been finished. We are currently now preparing all of our documentations to bid," said Schiers. Once the bids come in, BC will award the bid to a contractor for an "x" amount of dollars that they agreed to and they will come in and do the remodeling.

"The construction can start as early as December, but if it doesn't start on December I guarantee it will start January. It was decided that we won't hold classes in the SAM building this semester, but we would continue to have those classes elsewhere on campus."

"The next step we took is to empty the building of all the equipment and supplies and then we had to categorize the equipment and figure out where they would go.

"Some of the equipment hasn't been easy to move like the pianos or xylophones because of climate changes. We are looking for acclimatized storage so the xylophones and pianos won't be



BRANDON BARRAZA / THE RIP

The Speech, Arts and Music Building is currently undergoing construction, and the outdoor theater is littered with overgrowth.

subject to temperature swings," said Schiers.

"I don't think this will do any harm to the students' education, but some of the rooms don't have as much space as in the SAM," said Stephen Eaton, dean of instructional services. "The choir is in a room where they are on the stands and the conductor is on the stage, but that's just a mi-

nor inconvenience.

"People ask, with the state having no money, why are they renovating? But the truth is, this has been a plan for a while," he continued.

"No one is allowed in if you're not moving anything out. If you're not part of the solution, you're part of the problem."

BC is planning to renovate the

building and also the outdoor theater. "I think that the outdoor theater really does need a renovation because when you go out there you see weeds growing out of the ground," said Eaton.

According to Schiers, the renovations are to last a year and a half. This means that if it starts in January of 2012, it will probably be done by the summer of 2013.

Bookstore starts new beginning

By America Garza
Reporter

Ownership of the campus bookstore transitioned to Barnes & Noble this semester, but new store manager Brian Griffin says it still belongs to Bakersfield College and its students.

"The only changes were that Barnes & Noble, as the management company, helps to run the bookstore," Griffin said. "We're still the BC Bookstore."

The store features an expanded staff to accommodate early semester traffic, as well as faster register systems that make for a more efficient checkout process.

Students had shorter wait times than in previous years and the usual start of the semester line around the bookstore was nowhere to be seen.

"We didn't really have any problems with books being unavailable for students," said Griffin. "Everything went pretty smooth."

The merger with the retail bookstore giant has afforded student's options and benefits not available under the previous



GREGORY D. COOK / THE RIP

Brian Griffin is the new Manager of the Bakersfield College Bookstore.

operation.

This semester saw the arrival of the first textbook rental program offered at BC.

Griffin says many students took advantage of this option for its many perks.

"You rent your books for about 49 percent of the price

of a new book, you get to write and highlight in it like it's your own book, you just have to make sure there's no water damage or missing pages, and bring it back at the end of the semester," said Griffin.

The bookstore is in the planning stages of an interior remodel, tentatively scheduled to begin in October.

The remodel includes plans to reduce office space and move the location of the textbooks and cash registers.

"The store will be more setup where your textbooks are in the back half instead of it running diagonal like it does now. We'll gain a little more space that way," said Griffin. "We'll have a marketplace area with chairs and tables where students can sit down and relax between classes like you'd see at a regular Barnes & Noble."

Griffin says that students can expect to continue seeing upgrades to the bookstore under Barnes & Noble's management.

"We always want to make things better and improve on our processes," said Griffin.

BUDGET: Cuts likely to surprise

Continued from Page 1

gan on on-campus services in 2009, this year would not be as bad. "This year," he said, "we planned for minor reductions." He also notes that BC is "over-cap," meaning that we are serving more students than we are receiving money from the state to serve. "We have been over-cap for several years, but we believe that we can be over-cap for several more years and still serve our students."

He also noted that eliminating sections and part-time adjunct professors acts as a safety valve on the school's budget, noting that "we take one year at a time" when it comes to determining what classes will be cut.

Also, a lobbyist was hired to work with the state legislature. Sandra Serrano stated in a July 5 email "It's important to note that advocacy with our

legislators is giving them and other decision-makers a better understanding of how community colleges benefit the communities we serve. While all of higher education is seeing deep cuts in this year's budget, the community colleges, for the first time in a long time, fared better than the CSU and UC systems."

"The state's workload reduction language emphasizes that we must protect our core mission - transfer, career, and technical education and basic skills. This remains KCCD's enrollment management priority. In a statewide budget discussion this week, we were warned that the Legislative Analyst's Office and the Department of Finance will continue to carefully monitor community college course schedules and will take measures to enforce this priority with a heavy hand."

THERMAL: Plans in work to get system going

Continued from Page 1

tionality of the tank.

"There were some expectations that weren't met, and so we're trying to iron that out," said Schiers.

Work is being done at the district level between the contractor and facilities management to ensure the tank and chiller loop are linked up and operational in the near future.

The Thermal Energy System is one of several projects undertaken by BC in 2009 as part of a state and PG&E funded campuswide green initiative.

News Briefs

Workshops

BC's library is holding 70 workshops on seven different topics concerning research skills. The schedule is available on the library's homepage and paper copies are in the library.

SGA

The SGA is looking for teachers to make their class available for a short presentation about the goals and responsibilities of the SGA and to hand out student planners. Please contact Julia Cruz at sgasec@bakersfieldcollege.edu.

Wylie and May

The Wylie and May Louise Gallery at Bakersfield College is presenting Surface, an art exhibition by Anderson, Soffer, and Sopcznski from Sept. 8 to Sept. 29, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Transfer Day

The BC Transfer Day Fair is Mon., Sept. 12, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Over 40 colleges and universities will be in attendance.

BC BBQ

The 5th Annual Barbeque will be on Sept. 15 on the Bakersfield College Football Practice Field. The Tony Ernst Band will be providing live music, and socializing begins at 5:30 and dinner is served from 6-8 p.m. Steak or chicken will be served, and adults are \$25, Seniors are \$20, Students are \$15 with student ID and children under 12 are \$5 for hot dog meals. Tickets are on sale in the ticket office and at 395-4326.

Big Red Dinner

The Big Red Dinner event will be happening before every home football game from 4:45 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the Bakersfield College Cafeteria and it will be a spaghetti dinner with salad, rolls, and fountain drink for \$7.50 per person.

BC Pool

The Bakersfield College pool is now open Mon to Thurs, 10:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. It will be free to faculty/staff, \$30 a semester for students, and \$60 a semester for non-students.

Bresso to make students priority

By Thomas Howell
Reporter

Michele Bresso has been recently selected to be the Kern Community College District's full-time Associate Vice Chancellor of Governmental and External Relations.

As a former Communication professor and former director of marketing and public relations, Bresso has carried out the KCCD governmental relations position on an interim, part-time basis since August 2010. Bresso has been with the KCCD for 18 years.

After 11 years of public relations, she went back to school and got her master's degree and started teaching in the Bakersfield College Communication Department.

She has worked with the Kern High School District for 12 years and studied journalism. Bresso is currently nearing completion of her doctorate at Fielding Graduate University, where she is working on her Ph.D. in Human and Organizational systems with dissertation research in community college leadership development. In her current full-time position, Bresso said she will miss her role as a professor of communication at BC.

"The relationships with the students are irreplaceable," said Bresso.

She plans on being on campus regularly and said, although she's not formally teaching, she will always be connected with the students. Bresso's new job entails communication with legislative branches of government, including federal, state and local government personnel.

Her two main goals are to communicate to both legislators and staff and speak on the behalf of KCCD and also to build a relationship with the community businesses and other local governmental agencies. Bresso said a field representative by the name of Javier Reyes for Assemblywoman Shannon Grove comes to BC on the third Thursday of every month.

The next meeting is Sept. 15 from 10 a.m. to noon in the Levinson building room 5. Bresso is currently trying to get more assembly representatives to stop by BC to have the students voice their opinions and say what is on their minds.